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For meaning of this No. see Page 11. of Cover.

JOHN BULL

Vol. XIV. No. 357. SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1913. ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

OUR PENSION

SEE PAGE 477 **WON** SEE PAGE 477

LAST CHANCE

TO WIN

£7 A WEEK FOR LIFE

—AND—

£1250

FINAL COUPON THIS WEEK.

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Hours of Business: open every day 9 till 8, excepting Saturday, when we close at 1 o'clock.

The following is an abbreviated list of articles now to be seen:—

4 ft. 6 in. Oak Sideboard, £3 12s. 6d.; 6 Dining Chairs and 2 Carving Chairs to match, £4 15s.; Dining Table, 38s. 6d. 12 Overmantels at 17 . 6d.; Large Size well-sprung Chesterfield and 2 Lounge Easies, £7 15s.; 20 Queen Anne Design Dining Room Chairs, Leather Seats, 24s. 0d. each; Massive Elizabethan Design Sideboard, 6 Chairs, and 2 Massive Carving Chairs to match, Heavily Carved Dining Table to match, will accept £17 10s. the suite; 10 ft. Dining Table, 12s. 6d.; Handsome Queen Anne Design Sideboard, £7 15s.

THE BEDROOM FURNITURE comprises 28 Complete Bedrooms.

5 Oak Bedroom Suites with full Chest of Drawers to Dressing Chest, £4 10s. 10 Oak Bedsteads at 14s. 6d.; 3 Large Size Walnut Bedroom Suites, £6 15s. 3 Large Size Bedsteads with Sanitary Woven Wire Spring Overlay, Bolster and 2 Pillows, £2 12s. 6d. complete; 4 Handsome Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites, £7 15s.; Pair of Twin Bedsteads to Match, 63s.; Large Double Oval Door Bedroom Suite, Sheraton Design, £15 15s.; Reflex Mirrors to Dressing-table. Full-size Bedstead to match, £2 15s.; a very fine Gent's Wardrobe, £6 15s.; Handsome Walnut Dressing Chest and Washstand, £4 10s.; Handsome 6 ft. Louis XV. Bedroom Suite, most exquisite Design, £28; Old Dutch Wardrobe, no reasonable offer refused. 7 ft. Mahogany Wardrobe, fitted two-thirds hanging, one-third drawers and trays, 12 gns.; 3 Large-size Oak Bedroom Suites, £8 15s. Several Chests of Drawers, 18s. 6d.; 6 ft. Inlaid Sheraton design Bedroom Suite, an absolute bargain, 25 gns.; 3 Exquisite Design Inlaid Bedroom Suites, with shaving mirror to washstand, £11; 5 White Enamel Bedroom Suites, £6 10s.; Bedstead to match, 30s.

DRAWING ROOMS:—

Chesterfield, 2 Very Comfortable Lounge Easy Chairs and 4 Solid Mahogany Occasional Chairs all covered in fine art Tapestry, £11 11s., worth double; Louis XV. Design Cabinet, £2 15s.; Another, similar design, £4 15s.; 3 Chesterfield, with adjustable ends, £3 15s., 10 Lounge Easy Chairs, 17s. 6d.; Settee, 2 Tub Easy Chairs, 4 Occasional Chairs, £6 6s. Upright Piano by Gustav Richter, £18 18s.; Another by Collard and Collard, £16 10s. A very fine selection of Chesterfields and Easy Chairs always in Stock. Also Bed and Table Linen. 50 Carpets from 7s. 6d. Turkey Carpets, all sizes, for £4.

Any Article will be sold separately, and can be selected at once, and can be stored until required free of charge.

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What is your Number?

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done.

The following claims have been received in respect of our issues of February 22nd and March 8th:—

W. FOSTER BRIGHAM, 20, The Esplanade, Scarborough. February 22nd. No. 850649.

C. H. DRABBLE, Thrybergh, Near Rotherham. March 8th. No. 260520.

A. T. LIPPIATT, 13, Annesley Road, Newport (Mon.). February 22nd. No. 150911.

WM. HALLIWELL, Croft Terrace, Knowle, Mirfield, Yorks. March 8th. No. 272526.

T. T. BUDGE, "Lynwood," Foxholes Road, Rochdale. March 8th. No. 667228.

J. HUNTER REDMAN, 8, Cornwallis Road, Walthamstow. March 8th. No. 207358.

MARTIN MORRIS, Capstan Street, Goole, Yorks. March 8th. No. 866184.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of March 29th:—

916	200849	385808	560779	810214
10435	218957	407932	587077	845884
20518	228903	415907	599761	892449
36006	233993	425381	615176	897610
51720	252226	445591	619320	913576
77372	301413	460027	645146	963420
85483	315625	480449	678623	974100
102382	321221	496802	728444	987341
152084	344263	515329	759312	A 1082
164923	357554	544352	764518	A 33051

The A prefixed to the drawn numbers indicates it is plus a million.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE (PUBLISHED APRIL 9TH).

SEE PAGE 499.

FOOTBALL COMPETITION. NO. 4.

SEE PAGE 499.

"JOHN BULL" Entrance Form.

Matches Played Saturday, April 12th.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

Bolton W.	**v. Aston Villa**
Bradford City	**v. Blackburn R.**
Chelsea	**v. Tottenham H.**
Liverpool	**v. Sunderland**
Manchester C.	**v. Sheffield Wednesday**
Oldham	**v. Middlesbro'**
Sheffield Un.	**v. Manchester Un.**
Woolwich A.	**v. Derby County**
W. Bromwich	**v. Everton**
Bristol City	**v. Leeds City**
Clapton O.	**v. Fulham**
Glossop	**v. Barnsley**
Hull City	**v. Bradford**
Stockport C.	**v. Blackpool**
Merthyr	**v. Northampton**
Watford	**v. Q. P. Rangers**
Brighton	**v. Millwall**
Exeter	**v. Swindon**
Southampton	**v. Reading**
Portsmouth	**v. Stoke**

I enter JOHN BULL Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed.....

Address .....

.....

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

RULES

WHICH SHOULD BE READ CAREFULLY.

1. On the Entrance Form attached cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to **"JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.**, mark envelope, in top left-hand corner, **Football Competition No. 4**, so as to reach us not later than first post Friday, April 11th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The First Prize of £7 a week for Life will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results, as published in the "Sporting Life," of all the matches given, played to a finish on April 12th. In the event of no coupon received giving the whole of the correct results, a cash prize of £750 will be awarded to the competitor whose coupon shows the most correct results short of the full number. **In addition**, the sum of £400 in cash will be paid to the sender of the entrance form containing the next highest number of correct forecasts. £100 in cash will also be awarded to the lady whose coupon gives more correct forecasts than that of any other lady competitor. Thus, if the Pension Prize of £7 a week for life be not won, we shall still award the £750, the £400 and the £100—so that the huge sum of £1,250 must be won.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received. Individual competitors may send in as many entries as they wish, and any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends may send their entries together in one envelope.

5. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

6. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

7. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the Pension Prize of £7 a week for Life, the Second Prize of £750 cash, as well as the £400 cash prize, and the special £100 prize for ladies only, will be equally divided.

8. No coupon bearing a Scottish address can be accepted.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 11th.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XIV. No. 357, Week ending Saturday, April 5th, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *enquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for MARCH 29th, 1913, bearing on its Cover the Number **322,888.**

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

ANOTHER £10 PAID.

The £10 offered for the copy of our issue of March 22nd numbered 944,472 has gone to—

Mr. JOHN TAYLOR,
51, Colwick Road,
SNEINTON, NOTTINGHAM.

The John Bull League.

THE PRESIDENT,
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY,
will address
A GREAT PUBLIC MEETING
in the
TOWN HALL, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
on
FRIDAY, 4th APRIL.

Doors open 7.30 p.m. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. by S. S. WHERLY, Esq. Organ Recital and League Songs at 7.45 p.m. Reserved Seats, One Shilling. Tickets of Admission (Free) can be obtained on application to any of the following by sending stamped and addressed envelope:—Messrs. Tellson and Co., Castle Garth, Newcastle; Mr. S. S. Wherly, 55, Clayton Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. L. Robson, 13, Grainger Street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. Mitchell, "Ingarville," Monkseaton; Mr. Walton, Front Street, Whitley Bay; Mr. Wherly, Southend House, Whitley Bay; Mr. Johnson, 59, Albert Street, Gateshead; Mr. J. H. Johnson, 196, Rawling Road, Bensham; The Local Secretary (Mr. F. W. Johnson), 3, Askew Road West; or from the General Secretary, "John Bull League," Douglass Hotel, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Hold the Fort!

What a muddle the Party Politicians are in—poor chaps! We *do* hope, however, that they will be able to hold on, and keep the game going for another two years. We cannot very well be ready before then!

Giving the Game Away.

From the *Daily Telegraph*: "This is no matter of Party warfare; it is one of material concern." Then the two things *are* distinct?

A Parliamentary Noodle.

One of the Radical papers says it is not generally known that the new M.P. for Houghton—Mr. Tom Wing—"is a brilliant preacher." As a matter of fact, he is one of the dullest and most brainless dogs who ever sat in the House. During the time he represented Grimsby he was in the habit of writing a weekly letter to a local paper, and for unadulterated piffle his effusions would be hard to beat. We called attention to some of them at the time. Now he succeeds another lay preacher in the late Mr. Cameron—and this is how we are to prepare for the coming struggle with Germany, not alone on the sea, but equally in our markets all over the world! Poor Britain!

A REAL Preacher.

If you want to hear a *real* preacher, go to Forbes-Robertson's farewell season at Drury Lane. In one week he instils more true morality, more nobility of inspiration, more elevation of thought and character into the world, than do all the parsons in a year. By the way, how ridiculous it now seems that until Mr. Robertson's *Hamlet*, everybody used to speak of "the mad prince of Denmark," notwithstanding that every incident in the whale and weasel scene—followed by the aside, "They fool me to the top of my bent"—is distinctly designed to suggest simulation. Oh, those dramatic critics!

Mr. Churchill's Error.

Mr. Churchill is in a difficult position—having, on the one hand, to comply with the obvious necessities of the naval situation, and, on the other, to placate the prejudices of the Little Navy cranks who sit behind him. But it is a blunder to keep talking about a truce with Germany. The Teuton is a heavy, unimaginative creature, and in all these overtures he sees nothing but funk. *Our* policy would be—but we are premature.

Hurrah, Haldane!

Lord Haldane has evidently been attending some of our John Bull League meetings. Here he is telling the public that "our educational system, instead of being limited to abstract learning, should include forms of education to fit boy or girl for earning wages and salaries at higher rates than at present obtained." Now we know what to expect when the new Education Bill is introduced—we *don't* think!

"If You See It——"

By the way, all of a sudden the *Telegraph* and the *Mail* have awakened to the fact that Germany means mischief! What thinks Mr. Churchill now about the proposed "twelve months' holiday" in shipbuilding? Is he quite sure that Germany is not *satisfied* with the present "standard"?

A Political Surprise.

Look out for a big political surprise at an early date.

Our Pension Won. Another Waiting. Last Chance this week. Particulars on page 499.

What Ducks!

For the second time within a few months the Liberal Whips in the House of Commons have allowed themselves to be surprised by a snap division. They used to call the old Whip, the Master of Elibank, the Ever-Ready; judging by their performances, the present Whips might with equal truth be called the Never Readies. Indeed, the only difference between these gentlemen and the common or garden weasel appears to be that, while you never catch a weasel asleep, you seldom catch a Liberal Whip awake. One of the Nationalist M.P.'s has been telling a reporter that they "ought to be pitched into the river." It is not possible for us to acquiesce in this drastic punishment in the mere interests of Party government. If, however, the Liberal, Tory, Nationalist, and Socialist Parties could be pitched in with them, not only should we not raise the slightest objection, but we should attend the subsequent obsequies in our most brilliant necktie.

Radical Landslip.

Things seem to be going awry with the Land Campaign. Only the other day, Mr. R. L. Outhwaite was badly beaten in a newspaper bout with the Duke of Norfolk's solicitors, and now the Duke of Marlborough has taken a hand in the fray. The fact is that in attacking rural landowners the Single Taxers have got "the wrong sow by the ear." The peasantry will never be roused to any enthusiasm by a political onslaught upon the men whom they have always regarded as their natural patrons and protectors. For the most part, the great patrician landowners are administering their estates with a fair regard to the well-being of their dependents, and agitators who fail to make allowance for the strong personal tie between "cottage" and "hall" are in danger of running their heads against a particularly solid brick wall. Hodge steadily refuses to play the rôle of the martyr in the political farce.

Sleeping Samuel.

When Mr. Herbert Samuel has finished fooling with the Marconi business he may perhaps find a few moments to deal with one or two minor problems belonging to his office. The sub-postmasters are very naturally up in arms at the paltry solatium which has been offered them for their somewhat onerous services in connection with the Insurance Act, while the unfortunate postal clerks who in many cases have borne the brunt of the extra work appear to have been left altogether out in the cold. We cannot think that Mr. Samuel is personally responsible for all the blunders of his Department. He has usually been regarded as a fairly competent person. Perhaps he may some day wake up to the fact that his first duty is to the Department of which he is the head, and that the public are much more interested in the efficient management of the Post Office than in the Postmaster-General's views on Home Rule or any other subject unconnected with his own job.

The Confession of Sir Rufus.

That was a rather piquant confession which Sir Rufus Isaacs made in the course of his examination before the Marconi Committee. "I once held about 150 to 200 shares in some Welsh gold mines—the St. David's Gold Mines Company." He was certainly lucky in making "a small profit." Most other people have made a dead loss, the promise of ninepence for fourpence having utterly failed to materialise.

The Latest Out.

A Manchester suffragette has been fined for trying to push a policeman under a tramway car, the naughty girl! This is to certify that if ever she does such a thing again she will be severely cautioned.

A Significant Move.

The Government have invited Mr. Balfour to take part in the deliberations of the Committee of Imperial Defence, and the right honourable gentleman has accepted. There is more in this incident than a mere exchange of courtesies. It marks a departure from long-established precedent, and is symptomatic of the gradual decay of the Party system. Foreign politics have for some time been regarded as a neutral zone in public affairs, and it now appears that high questions of Imperial Defence are to be similarly removed from the area of Party combat. Every patriotic citizen will welcome the change. Mr. Balfour is an amateur strategist of some repute, and his shrewd judgment and ripe experience will doubtless be of considerable value to the Committee; but the principle is the main thing, and we confidently anticipate its extension in the near future to matters of social and domestic concern. British ideas of government are rapidly developing along lines of our own repeated forecasts. The Party system is crumbling. No mere re-shuffling of Parties or policies can avert its imminent collapse. Its fall will probably be followed by one or two unsuccessful experiments in government by groups, on the Continental plan, which can only culminate in confusion. There is but one way out—a Business Government.

Labour Party's Vote.

When Mr. Jowett, the Bradford Labour M.P., tried to impress his own political virtues on the Labour Party Conference in Manchester by proposing a resolution that the Labourals in the House of Commons should vote on the merits of public questions without considering the effect upon the Ministry, Mr. Philip Snowden, a fellow Labour M.P., protested that the Party always *did* vote on the merits of public questions. Mr. Snowden is quite right. When the Labourals vote for the Liberals it is not to keep the Liberals in power, but because they have a conscientious conviction that to jeopardise £400 a year by voting against them would be foolery of the deepest dye. If this isn't voting according to the merits, we don't know what is.

Moore and Burgess.

By the way, a Mr. John Burgess rose at the Conference to allege that Socialist activity in Parliament was like the chapter on snakes in Ireland. "There are no snakes," he said. We wish he could affirm with similar confidence that there are no sneaks.

Airy Nothings.

Colonel Seely's somewhat vague and inconclusive pronouncements upon military aviation have sent the *Daily Chronicle* into an ecstasy of Party enthusiasm. Having first devoted several columns to the elucidation of the more obscure aspects of War Office aerial policy, our contemporary proceeds to quote from the *Pall Mall Gazette*, which, of course, is by no means as jubilant as its rival. "The programme for the coming year is so inadequate that England must lay farther and farther behind its rival," it says—to which the *Chronicle* naïvely retorts, "It is all very bewildering." It is—and very much "in the air"!

Oh, What a Fall!

Our erstwhile spotless contemporary, the *Daily News*, has fallen from its high estate. Since its amalgamation with the mundane *Leader*, a carnal note has crept into its utterances. It has recently had to apologise in open court for making serious and unfounded charges against a large landed proprietor, and Mr. Justice Darling took advantage of the occasion to visit our contemporary with a lengthy lecture upon the wickedness of its ways—without once trying to be funny!

Our Pension Won. Another Waiting. Last Chance this week. **Particulars on page 499.**

Two Cecils.

Quite recently we deemed it necessary to address an "Open Letter" to Mr. Cecil Chapman, the Magistrate at Tower Bridge, with regard to his somewhat callous statement that "it didn't hurt children to go with bare feet." Now we find him in quite another vein. In the course of a speech to the Church of England Temperance Society the other day, he remarked that "he believed in treating the criminal as being as good as his neighbour, who had not been found out, and the inebriate as a human being who had the misfortune to be diseased and could be cured." Seeing that this pronouncement was made where there were doubtless many who regard criminals and inebriates as so many moral lepers, it would appear that the learned gentleman has both courage and compassion. Such sentiments are hard to reconcile with the one quoted above, and we retract no word of our earlier rebuke. At the same time, we gladly give prominence to the later utterance. It is not our habit to stint praise or blame where we believe them to be due.

A Business Bill.

It is good to find that amid the mock heroics of Party politics there are a few level-headed M.P.'s who are ready to take a simple business proposition and pursue it to a practical conclusion. Mr. A. C. Morton, M.P., has a useful little measure in hand, which, if carried, will materially add to the comfort and convenience of travellers by rail. Mr. Morton proposes that all railway companies should be compelled to furnish third-class sleeping accommodation on long-distance night trains, and that both halves of all return tickets should be available at any time. Such simple and practical reforms as these will probably be far beneath the august notice of more ambitious politicians, and for that very reason may perhaps secure a better chance of a successful passage into law. At a time when railway companies are receiving extended privileges and wider powers, the public may justly demand an adequate *quid pro quo*. Between masters and men, there is grave danger that the interests of passengers may be forgotten.

The Lash for Sick Lads.

Dr. Keats, the Medical Superintendent of the Camberwell Infirmary, finds it necessary to resort to corporal punishment in order to maintain discipline among the younger inmates of the institution. The members of the Infirmary Committee, to whom his conduct was recently reported, appear to approve of the whipping of sick boys, as long as they are the children of other people. At any rate, they refused to take any action, and as far as they are concerned the matter has been allowed to drop. We trust the ratepayers of Camberwell will keep an eye on Dr. Keats and his colleagues. The flogging of boys who are in such a delicate state of health as to require hospital treatment strikes us as a most inhuman proceeding. Perhaps the parents of the boys may like to lend a hand in looking into the matter.

Wives of the Farm.

According to Mr. S. V. Hotchkin, Chairman of the Horncastle Guardians, the butter which has been supplied to them recently has not been fit to grease a cart. It has long been a reproach that the British farmer's wife cannot make butter; and the reason has been put in this form:—"1813—Farmer at the plough, Wife milking cow; Daughter spinning yarn, Son thrashing in a barn; All happy to a charm. 1913—Father at the show, Daughter at the pian-o, Madam dressed in satin, Sons all learning Latin, A mortgage on the farm." What says the Lincolnshire farmer?

Prancing Puritans.

The kill-joys are apparently having things all their own way at Douglas, Isle of Man. At the recent sittings of the Licensing Court the magistrates refused all licences for the sale of alcoholic liquors in boarding-houses, and actually withdrew from a number of hotel proprietors the singing and music licences which they had held for many years past and which have enabled them to provide free concerts for the thousands of visitors who flock to the island resort every year. It is hard to see why either of these very reasonable facilities should be withdrawn. As to the boarding-house beer, the only result of the change will be that in future it will be paid for before instead of after purchase, according to the custom already almost universal in "temperance" hotels; while the withdrawal of the hotel singing licences is simply a vexatious and impertinent interference with the legitimate enterprise of those who cater for the entertainment of the public. It is all part of the good old Puritan policy of objecting to everything which gives other people pleasure. We must keep an eye on Douglas. There is evidently room there for a branch of the John Bull League.

Let There Be Light.

"I regret to say," begins a circular letter sent out to applicants by Mr. Herbert Owen, ex-Clerk to the Staffordshire Insurance Committee, "that the advertisement relative to the position of clerk appeared a week later than the editor was instructed, consequently your application for a form was received too late to be of service." Did it by any chance happen that the fortunate gentleman appointed received a form a week earlier than anybody else? The reason we ask is that in one quarter, at any rate, the veracity of Mr. Herbert Owen is point-blank disputed, for another applicant who received the circular wrote to the newspaper and received this answer:—"I beg to inform you we are in no way in fault over the above advertisement, neither have we received any complaint." On this repudiation it looks as though, on behalf of the Staffordshire Insurance Committee, Mr. Owen has handled the truth somewhat carelessly, and an explanation is advisable.

National Ingratitude.

Miss Emma Fagg, the last survivor of Florence Nightingale's brave band of Crimean nurses, has recently died in the Isle of Thanet Workhouse, of which she had been an inmate for the past twenty-seven years. This case is typical of the way in which an ungenerous State too often rewards those who have given freely of their best in its service. There is a lamentable want of discrimination in the administration of parochial and State relief. It is surely a monstrous thing that the sole survivor of a group of women who by their heroism and self-sacrifice earned the imperishable gratitude of the British Army, should be allowed to breathe her last in the cold and unsympathetic atmosphere of the poor house, and to be buried in a pauper's grave.

Norton's Nonsense.

Reference has already been made in this column to the sweating of sub-postmasters under the Stamp-Licking Act. Evidently Captain Norton, the Assistant Postmaster-General, regards it as rather a good joke. When he was challenged about it in the House of Commons, the other afternoon, he said payment was twice that allowed in the case of postage stamps, when he was asked what the payment was for stamps, he replied that it was half that pai surance stamps. Would it be too much to Captain Norton that he should reserv this subject, for the smoke-room?

Another £450 for the best "Bullet" received. See page 506.

Territorial Truths.

Five Territorials were recently fined 30s. and costs at the Lambeth Police Court for failure to render themselves efficient—in order, we suppose, to encourage the others. This kind of thing does not help the recruiting sergeant, and, at a time when the Territorial Force is seriously undermanned, it is desirable that the authorities should exercise the utmost forbearance before instituting proceedings of this character. A man who has so little interest in his military duties that he requires to be goaded into training by prosecution and fine is never likely to become "efficient" in any real sense. As long as the voluntary system is on its trial, the compulsion of "volunteers" has an appearance of harshness which must inevitably act as a discouragement to likely recruits. Meanwhile, we heartily commend the action of the Bristol Board of Guardians, who have decided to grant an extra week's holiday to enable their Territorial employees to attend the annual camp. Such public spirit will conduce more to the efficiency of the Force than a hundred prosecutions.

The Murderous Motor.

Motor-'bus fatalities continue to occur with appalling frequency, so that even the most cautious pedestrian goes in hourly peril of his life. The Home Secretary has stated that the drivers of these vehicles are frequently called upon to work for thirteen hours a day. Thirteen hours at a stretch is far too long a time for any man to be employed at such an exacting and nerve-shaking task, and a legally-limited working day is imperatively demanded. Mr. McKenna declares that he has no power to fix such a limit. If this is so, the difficulty is regrettable—but by no means insuperable. Parliament should pass a short Bill to arm the Home Office with the necessary authority. If Mr. McKenna will undertake this little bit of practical business, instead of talking nonsense about "Select Committees," he may do something to retrieve his damaged Ministerial reputation.

Facts and Fancies.

The "peace party" are girding up their loins for the next International Conference at The Hague, which is to take place next year. The Conference will probably prove as fruitless as those which have gone before. The usual hollow courtesies will be exchanged, varied by occasional discussion upon "international law"; but it is not at The Hague that the future course of European history will be mapped out. Recent developments in German policy have been carried through with an almost cynical disregard of that secrecy which has usually characterised her operations in the diplomatic field. The German challenge to France in the matter of military armaments was intended to test the strength of the *entente cordiale*. That is the long and the short of it.

Rest for Robert.

Henceforth, members of the Metropolitan Police Force will enjoy one day's rest in seven. The change involves an addition of sixteen hundred officers to the Force, but this is after all a small price for a boon which has long been demanded not only by the police but by a large section of the public themselves. The duties of a police officer demand alertness, tact and a steady nerve, and none of these qualities can be looked for in men re overstrained. The new arrangements will dequate rest and recreation, and will doubtless no small degree to the comfort and safety and to the more adequate policing of the We wish the "bobbies" joy of their

Llandudno Magistrates and Reporters.

To some extent we can understand and appreciate the attitude of the Llandudno Magistrates in excluding reporters from the Children's Court. They hold that publishing the names of the children puts a public stigma on them. There is, however, another aspect of the matter. They have no right whatever to exclude reporters under the Act, and *in-camera* justice, whether in a Children's Court or anywhere else, is always open to suspicion, for if the children are on trial by the charge, the magistrates themselves may equally be on trial by the judgment. The reporters have an unfettered discretion, and we suggest that in the majority of cases arising in these Courts it will be most wisely exercised by the suppression of names. On the other hand, it is necessary that the Press should maintain its rights. Perhaps some reporter with the courage of some of his convictions will refuse to leave the Court on the next occasion he is requested so to do. If he is turned out by physical force he can then raise the question on a charge of assault.

Prison for Prudence.

It is always an invidious thing for a man to be asked to give evidence against his employer in an action at law, and employees frequently evince considerable reluctance in such cases. In a recent Insurance Act prosecution at the Youghal Police Court, three men who were summoned to testify against their master neglected to appear. They were subsequently arrested on warrants, and upon refusing to give evidence were actually committed to prison for Contempt of Court, although subsequently released on bail. We cannot help thinking that this was a somewhat hard measure, and we hope that the Insurance Commissioners will in future adopt methods less open to objection when instituting proceedings against recalcitrant employers.

The Barley-Grower's Sermon.

Not many days ago Mr. H. C. Yates, a Bridgnorth barley-grower and a rabid aquapuritan, addressing a local P.S.A. meeting, alleged that the country is cursed by revenue derived from the liquor traffic, and observed that "Compensation is given for loss of licence, but what compensation is given for the loss of the soul? God never made alcohol, which is an invention of man." This, from a gentleman who sells his barley to maltsters at the best price he can get in the market, has a smack of cant. He told the Court in cross-examination, when he opposed the granting of a certain licence in Wellington some time ago, that he does not know where his barley goes to; "It might be bought for making pearl barley." The old humbug!

The "Weekly Dispatch" on Party.

He (Colonel Weston) dislikes—and this dislike was shared by the Local Conservative Association—to be dictated to by Party bosses . . . The Party bosses tried to dictate to Colonel Weston and the South Westmorland Conservatives because he is a straightout opponent of food taxes . . . but so far from this being a disadvantage, the result shows that Colonel Weston was returned by a majority larger than anyone expected. *Surely the significance of this is that independent Englishmen are beginning to demand the return of independent members of Parliament. They are beginning to recognise the absurdity of calling our system of government representative when members of Parliament are expected by their leaders not to represent the people, but be vote-recording machines in the lobbies of the House of Commons.*—(From an article on the result of the Kendal by-election.)

to be Won. £7 a week for Life and £1,250. Last Chance this week.

Poor Old Scareship!

Ersatz Z1, the poor old German scareship which was alleged to have invaded England a few weeks ago, now lies a crumpled wreck on the parade ground at Karlsruhe—broken and burst by a violent gust of wind. It is hard that our esteemed contemporary, the *Daily Mail*, should be so much out of luck. Unless *Ersatz Z1* can be reinflated in time, we shall have nothing except sea-serpents to rely on for the silly season.

The Week's "Chestnut."

AQUA-PURITANICAL STREET CORNER ORATOR: "Yes, brethren, if it is so necessary to keep our bodies clean without, why should not water be as good to keep us clean within?"

ONE OF THE FEW: "Lumme, Bill, 'e'll be tellin' us ter eat soap next!"

OUR FOOTBALL PENSION WON!

FOUR LIFE PENSIONS AND £500 IN CASH WON.

We have great pleasure in announcing that, though no reader was successful in forecasting the full twenty results, the pension of £3 A WEEK FOR LIFE has been secured by four readers, each of whom sent in 17 correct results out of a possible 20, and will receive the handsome addition to their incomes of 15s. every week—or £39 a year—for the rest of their lives. The names and addresses of these fortunate readers are:—

MR. P. McCORMACK, 97, Durban Road, West Ham, E.
MR. G. W. GOLBY, 17, Ebor Terrace, Bilton, Harrogate.
MR. H. BRIDGES, 33, Wood Street, Dukinfield.
MR. CHARLES W. TAYLOR, 81, Clovelley Road, Southampton.

THE MAGNIFICENT PRIZE OF **£500** *offered for the "runner-up," has been shared by 7 ladies and 37 gentlemen, each of whom gave 16 results correctly. We are therefore dividing the amount into 44 equal parts of £11 7s. 4d., and forwarding cheques accordingly.*

MRS. E. FREEAR, 7, Symington Street, Northampton.
MRS. WILLAN, 168, St. George's Road, Preston.
MRS. BACIOCCHI, 220, Clarendon Road, Whalley Range, Manchester.
MRS. B. ROBERTS, 52, Blandford Road, Pendleton, Manchester.
MRS. JONES, Brynteg, Llanybyther, South Wales.
MRS. L. MERCER, 79, Prospect Road, Southborough, Kent.
MRS. A. BLAZIER, 3, The Parade, Boreham Wood, Herts.
MR. A. CARPENTER, Merstham House, Merstham, Surrey.
MR. H. WHITTAKER, 46, Newmarket Street, Skipton, Yorks.
MR. D. MOON, 30, Windsor Road, Ilford.
MR. ARTHUR PATRICK, 19, St. John's Street, Scarboro'.
MR. B. H ALLRIDGE, 16, Nelson Street, Hackney Road, N.E.
MR. W. A. CAMP, 28, Hendham Road, Upper Tooting, S.W.
MR. JOSEPH JACKSON, Golden Lion Hotel, Farnworth, S.O.
MR. G. E. BURWELL, 99, Easy Road, Leeds.
MR W. DAVIES, Gipton Lodge, Roundhay Road, Leeds.
MR. PALMER, Phillips Court, Thames Street, South Shields.
MR. ALFRED OGLEY, 27, Staley Street, Orrell, Liverpool.
MR. GEO. BRIXEY, 37, Church Street, Shirley, Southampton.
MR. GEO. LINNEY, 77, Florin Street, Pendleton, Manchester.
MR. EDWARD COCKBAIN, 99, Main Street, Parton, Whitehaven, Cumberland.
MR. TOM COUSINS, 179 Block, Old Whittington, near Chesterfield.
MR. C. WEBBER, Fox Inn, Corfe Castle, Dorset.
MR. W. J. JONES, 1, Shoemaker Row, Maesteg, Glam.
MR. RICHARD WALL, 52, Sheinton, near Shrewsbury.
MR. STANLEY HUNT, Manor Farm, Clatford, near Andover.
PTE. W. PRICE, B Coy., Hants Depot, Winchester.
MR. JOHN DAVIES, Globe Place, Llanfyllin, North Wales.
MR. S. KIRK, 1, High Grange Road, Tudhoe Grange, Spennymoor, Co. Durham.
MR. E. G. MAGGS, 21, Didcot Terrace, Lower Bullar Street, Southampton.
MR THOMAS HUGHES, s.s. Lusitania, Liverpool.
MR. W. H. HOLDSWORTH, 132, Middleton Street, Moss Side, Manchester.
MR. DAVID BLUE, c.o. Mrs. Eagle, 8, Denbeigh Road, Westbourne Grove.
MR A. HITCHINS, 177, Station Street, Cheslyn Hay, Walsall.
MR. T. C. MAXWELL, 21, Cringlethwaite Terrace, Egremont, Cumberland.
MR. J. VARLEY, 6, Oakes Terrace, Anchor Street, Hunslet, Leeds.
MR. R. B. REDRUP, 70, Palmerston Road, Southsea.
MR GEORGE BETTISON, 13, Cooke Street, Bentley, Doncaster.
MR. E. TOMKINS, Walton, Kington, Herefords.
MR. C. G CORNISH, 20, Silver Street, Taunton.
MR. A. E. PORTER, 15, Baronet Road, Tottenham, N.
MR. GEORGE DRAKE, 81, Bolton Road, Leicester.
MR. J. GRIFFITHS, 32, Orchard Street, Newport, Mon.
MR. JAMES CRUICKSHANK, 60, Wellington Road, Lancaster.

This week presents the last chance of winning our stupendous prizes of £7 A WEEK FOR LIFE and £1,250 IN CASH, the largest Competition Prizes ever offered by any journal in the world.

Next week we shall announce other extraordinarily attractive Football Competitions. Be on the look out!

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.]

For advertising in the "Scotsman": "HOUSEBOY *(exper.) required,* MEMBER OF ROYAL FAMILY; *board-wages generally,"*

THE LORNE REGISTRY (Newton St., Glasgow)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following recipe: "SCALLOP *Broth.*—WASH *and* CUT IN SMALL PIECES, *one-half pint each of* MILK *and* WATER, *a* DOT *of butter and salt to taste,"*

THE FAMILY DOCTOR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of the Suffragette fire outrage at Beckenham that: "Had the constable passed a few minutes EARLIER *there is little doubt that the building would have been well alight before it was discovered, as the spot is rather secluded,"*

THE DAILY CHRONICLE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For asserting, according to the "Stamford and Rutland Guardian," that, in the way of certain conveniences, "Stamford was HUNDREDS OF YEARS *behind,* IF NOT CENTURIES,"

MR. COUNCILLOR CORNWALL (of Stamford)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For placing in the forefront of the inducements to purchase contained in their catalogue:. "The Goods CAN'T LAST LONG *at the prices we quote,"*

MESSRS. STEVENSON MITCHELL & CO.
(Queenstown)
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating in an article in the "Weekly Telegraph" that: "An average attack of simple appendicitis lasts FROM A WEEK TO SEVEN DAYS,"

DR. LECHMERE ANDERSON
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in his story, "The Swoop of the Eagle," published in "Chums." that one of the characters "*SMELT *a strange, suspicious* SOUND; *it was as though a tiny whiff of pungent smoke had blown across his nostrils,"*

CAPTAIN FRANK SHAW
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "Mr. Alderman Roll is POACHING *in Sussex, his headquarters being the Royal York Hotel, Brighton,"*

THE CITY PRESS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For heading its account of the assassination of the King of Greece: "His Majesty's LAST WORDS," *followed by the statement: "The King* DID NOT UTTER A WORD,"

THE EASTERN DAILY PRESS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in her story, "Concert Pitch," published in "The Sunday Chronicle," that: "Lady Sallust did not understand the letter AT ALL *until she had seen Loetitia and then she understood it* LESS *than before,"*

"FRANK DANBY"
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

*We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same item be forwarded by several competitors, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be marked "*BISCUIT*" and addressed to "The Biscuit Editor."*

Another £450 for the best "Bullet" received. See page 506.

MINISTERS, MUDDLERS—AND MARCONIS.

PLAIN TRUTHS AND OBSCURE FALLACIES.

BY THE EDITOR.

This Marconi business is becoming nauseating. But for one consideration, I could wish it at the bottom of the sea. *But*—it is one more object-lesson in the fraud and hollowness of the Party system. We must always bear in mind that these Parliamentary Committees are part and parcel of that system. and that they reflect, upon a smaller scale, all the humbug and unreality of the great machine of which they are a subsidiary piece of mechanism. You see, the Government of the day, as it is called, always takes care to have a majority on the Committee, with the result that its conclusions are foregone. We had a splendid illustration of this the other day, in the case of Sir Stuart Samuel and his seat. The Government had nominated five, and the Opposition had nominated four members of the Committee. In the ordinary course of events, there would have been a majority of one in favour of Sir Stuart; but—alas for the foresight of the Chief Whip!—one of the Government hacks—it was Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, the non-union school teacher who leads the "Labour" party!—was allowed to escape. Result—four for Sir Stuart and four against him! And so with this Marconi Committee—five for Ministers, and four against them. It *must* be so—it is the rule of the game. Then the "Report" of the Committee will come up for "consideration" in the House, and, again according to the rules, the result must be—about a hundred majority for the Ministers. So now, my dear Man in the Street, you know all about it. But isn't it a farce? And a fraud? Do not forget its name—it is called Party Government.

What is the Row About?

I have confined myself to the purely Ministerialist aspect of the matter. Nobody cares a rap about the original purpose of the Committee—which was to inquire into the desirableness of the proposed "wireless" contract between the Marconi Company and the Government. Politics, in these days, are such a dull affair that scarcely anyone troubles about them—except when there is a personal rumpus on. Therefore, let us see what all the present row is about. There is a Company which owns the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy. Its managing director is a shrewd young man, whom I have known nearly all his life, named Godfrey Isaacs—"Jack Isaacs" we always call him. His brother is Sir Rufus Isaacs, whom I have also known since he was a very young man. Sir Rufus is Attorney-General, and is now a member of the Cabinet—having been given that distinguished rank as a solatium for being passed over when Lord Haldane succeeded Lord Loreburn as Lord Chancellor. In these circumstances—but before Sir Rufus joined the Cabinet—the Marconi Company negotiated and fixed up a provisional contract with the Government. On the faith of this contract, much public attention was directed to the Company—and my cute friend, "Jack," who had been quietly picking up the shares whilst they were very cheap, "packed up a parcel" as the result of the "boom"—and then set to work with all kinds of subsidiary and sister and associated companies. So much for the house that Jack built.

The Origin of the Rumours.

And then the trouble commenced. Sir Rufus, who, as all the world knows, "has a way with him," had by this time won the heart of Mr. Lloyd George, and the two had become inseparable friends. They lunched and dined together; they spent week-ends together; they went away together for their holidays, and, on many of the occasions, there was a third chum, in the Master of Elibank—now Lord Murray. If you ask me the explanation of this intimacy, I have no difficulty in answering. They are three very human beings—full of the warm blood of life—and they were mutually attracted by a common sympathy of temperament and view, and were—perhaps unconsciously—repelled by their puritanical surroundings. Thus they became the object of constant public notice and report in their social as well as their political spheres of activity. Incidentally, Sir Rufus—who had amassed a fortune at the Bar—had bought himself a country house, whilst Mr. Lloyd George was building himself one—together with a little Institute which he was presenting to his native village. Of course Sir Rufus could easily afford his expenditure, whilst Mr. Lloyd George was investing about half a year's salary on *his* place—and paying for the Institute out of the damages he received a few years ago in connection with a very cruel slander. But the public knew, and cared, nothing about these things—any more than it knew that the genial and courtly "Master" was struggling hard under the burden of heavily encumbered estates, and discharging his official duties as Chief Whip of the Government in circumstances of the greatest difficulty. The news of Mr. Godfrey Isaacs' fortune had become common property on the Stock Exchange—and the Stock Exchange has had little to do lately but talk! And soon it became rumoured that his brother Rufus and his chums were also "in it." The story was that they had used their influence with the Postmaster-General, Mr. Herbert Samuel, to get the Marconi contract through, and that they had been interested in the rise in the Company's shares. Exact figures were freely mentioned, and the most circumstantial details were whispered amongst stockbrokers and journalists over their cups. Then, at last, some of the papers began to hint at things, and after a time writs commenced to fly about, a Committee was appointed—and statements were made in Parliament by Sir Rufus, Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Herbert Samuel.

The Facts of the Case.

It will be convenient here to mention what in the meantime had happened. None of the Ministers we have named had participated to the extent of a penny piece in the Marconi share boom. That was the perquisite of "Jack" and his friends. Nor had any of them except Mr. Samuel been concerned with the Marconi contract, although it would be nonsense to pretend that they had not looked upon it with a friendly eye—without, however, knowing, or suspecting, to what good financial uses it would be put. "Jack" knows his book—and doesn't talk much; Rufus was far too immersed in his legal and political work, and satisfied with his fortune, to trouble about a prospective Stock Exchange flutter; Lloyd George, like Mr. Balfour, is a veritable "child in such matters"—whilst dear old Elibank, so far from profiting in any way, at last found the pressure of circumstances so great that he decided to follow my own example by giving up politics for a time and devoting his attention to his own business affairs. *But* when—on the top of the boom—the wily "Jack" decided (as financiers always do) to feed the public with further dishes until its appetite was satiated,

he did not forget that he had a rich brother—who could, without inconvenience, take a decent block of shares in an allied issue just being floated—the American Marconi—nor, I am sure, did *he* underestimate the value of being able to tell his financial friends that so distinguished a member of the Government was interested in the concern. And so he told Rufus all about it, and what a fine investment the shares would be—methinks I see him now!—and eventually got him to take ten thousand of them at a hundred per cent. premium. And then Sir Rufus told Lloyd George and Elibank about it, and thus each of them took, or agreed to take, a thousand of the ten thousand shares—whilst later, Mr. Lloyd George, doubtless believing that he was on the point of, at last, demonstrating his financial genius to his carping critics, went in for a few thousand more, "on his own."

Ministers' Muddling.

And here I have a few plain words to say. There has been terrible bungling—and all due to this wretched Party humbug. Neither of the two Ministers still in the Commons has the remotest reason to be ashamed of anything he has done in regard to these purely private and personal speculations—to speak of them as "investments" is absurd—in a company which neither directly nor indirectly has had, or ever could have, any dealings with the Government of which they are members. And when they got up in the House to make "a full and complete statement of the facts," they should have disclosed all that there was to be known. To have treated the Law Courts with greater candour than they did the House of Commons was a very grievous error of judgment. The issue in the *Matin* case was identical with that in Parliament, and Sir Rufus was badly advised to have withheld the whole story. I wish he had consulted me! It is equally silly of Mr. Lloyd George to talk about making provision for the time when his present salary will cease. Consols, at their present price, constitute the best medium for that purpose. The truth is that, faced by the cranks around them, they both got the funk.

The Honour of Ministers.

Having thus stated the plain facts, let us dismiss from our minds for ever the obscure fallacies. There has been no breach of personal honour. I mentioned that I had known Rufus Isaacs for many years. I knew him when he was a struggling Junior at the bar. I dined with him, at his father's table, the day he got his "red bag"—from the late Sir John Lawson Walton. He sat at my side during the dark days of the Hansard Union trouble—and he acted as my counsel in many a case. And, knowing him as I do, I say that a more scrupulously, punctiliously honourable man never sat in Parliament. I have previously said that his scrupulousness borders upon scrupulosity. Of Mr. Lloyd George I cannot speak from such intimate personal knowledge. But I have had many chances of studying his character—and I know well some of his closest friends. And the opinion I have always held of him is that he is a real good fellow—handicapped by his nationality and his heart. Designed by nature for a broad-minded man of the world, circumstances and environment have made him an evangelist—just as the Party system has made him Chancellor of the Exchequer! Of the Master of Elibank I have said enough; whilst as regards Mr. Herbert Samuel, although he is on my parliamentary black list—being of that superior and self-righteous type which in public life is my *bête noir*—I would stake my existence on his inviolable personal integrity.

Let there, then, be no more cant—even in the interests of the Party game. Stop this fooling!

A TRUMPERY TRICK.

SLIM PRACTICE BY THE MANCHESTER POLICE.

Apparently, there is a ticket-of-leave system in connection with reformatory schools, and one of our Manchester readers has been good enough to furnish us with an interesting illustration of the way in which it is made to work to the detriment of parents. Some time ago our correspondent's son, who was then a lad of 16, got into trouble with the police and was sent to the Fylde Farm Reformatory for a term of three years, the father being ordered to contribute five shillings per week towards his maintenance in that institution. For a time letters were regularly exchanged between father and son, but in February last the lad's communications suddenly ceased. Inquiry at the School elicited the fact that the boy had been released "on licence"—in other words, he had been set free to pursue an independent career during good behaviour. The Superintendent of the School was unable or unwilling to inform the father of the lad's movements since his release.

Despite the fact that the boy has now been thrown upon his own resources, the father is still required to keep up his weekly payment of five shillings. Seeing that the School no longer recognises any liability in respect of maintenance, we can only suppose that the money now goes towards the general expenses of the institution, and we are bound to say that such an arrangement strikes us as being grossly unfair.

It is true that on the conviction the magistrate ordered the father to contribute five shillings weekly until the lad reached the age of nineteen, but this was on the distinct assumption that he would remain in a Reformatory School all the time, and that the money would be used for his maintenance. To discharge the boy without the father's knowledge or consent and then to continue to exact a weekly payment, not one penny of which is used for the lad's benefit, is about as dishonest a proceeding as one can imagine, and is certainly utterly disgraceful to the Manchester Police authorities, who, apparently, are responsible. We hope this is an isolated instance, and that such trickery is not common where Reformatory Schools are concerned.

We commend the methods of the Fylde Farm School to the attention of the Home Office.

REDGRAVE'S RETICENCE.

SILENCE OF HIS AIDER AND ABETTOR.

The gruelling we gave Redgrave, the Vicar of St. Paul's, Burslem, has been met by silence—neither he himself, nor his aider and abettor, the *English Churchman*, has a word to say. We can understand Redgrave's attitude, but surely this is strange conduct on the part of a newspaper which used to advertise the hypocrite so profusely! The *English Churchman* is the periodical which chronicles the doings of the Kensitite brawlers. It is also usually read by Ritualistic parsons and Catholic priests, there being such a dearth of other really humorous weekly journals. For many years it consistently supported the manifold money-raising schemes of the bounder Redgrave. One of his ideas was a "College" at Durham (appropriately dedicated to Cranmer, who "married" two wives himself, and assisted Bluff King Hal to break the matrimonial vow) for the education of budding ministers of Kensitite views. Here are some of the *English Churchman's* puffs of the "College":—

MOST POTENT INSTITUTION.

Scores of Spirit-Filled (!!) Young Men Waiting for Us to Take Up.

> God is blessing Cranmer College. Last week 70 per cent. of the students we presented for matriculation at Durham University passed. Will God's Protestant people keep on praying for us. Are not readers of this page able amongst them to supply at once the means for a great step forward?

We could fill columns with such verbiage. One thing, however, we look for in vain is a published statement regarding the disposition of the moneys Redgrave received from the credulous "anti-Catholics." Repeated requests have failed to draw him. And such a man has the impudence to preach the Gospel! No wonder the masses of the people prefer to visit picture palaces!

"Bullets"—Over 5,000 Cash and other Prizes weekly, value £1,770. See page 506.

A VINDICTIVE VICAR.

UNSEEMLY VITUPERATIONS IN A PARISH MAGAZINE.

In the Wrenbury (Cheshire) *Parish Magazine* appear several astounding references to the late Mr. A. Starkey's gift of a plot of ground to the local Council for the purposes of a cemetery free from Church control or interference, in addition to a sum of £1,000 to prepare it and erect on it a chapel and such buildings as may be considered necessary. There are many circumstances accounting for the chagrin of the Vicar, the Rev. H. W. Bradley—our readers are already familiar with the strained nature of the relations between Mr. Bradley and Mr. Starkey, who was Lord of the Manor, a Churchman, and a strong supporter of Wrenbury Church. Doubtless he had his faults; one of them may have been that he had the smallest possible appreciation of the Vicar's talents from the day of his induction about two years ago.

This antagonism supplies at least one very obvious motive for Mr. Bradley's remarks in his *Parish Magazine*; another is that this gift of the dead man, whom perhaps he had little enough reason to love, was not made to him, in trust for Wrenbury Church, but to the Parish Council—that it is for public use, without regard to creed, and that the Vicar thus could not say to any mourner in Wrenbury, as is so often said to the bereaved elsewhere by sacerdotal bigots, "Your dead shall not enter the mortuary chapel, and it shall not have Christian burial. I have said so, and my word is law." At any rate, we find Mr. Bradley calling on the Parish Council to "give the unhappy gift back again," stigmatising the proposed burial-ground as "a Parish Council back garden," and "venturing to say" that what Wrenbury people desire is "real Christian burial, by our ordained ministry, in a real Christian burial-ground." It is not necessary to characterise such expressions; it shocks every thought the free mind has of God's Acre that the strife of creeds and sects should be carried even to the grave and beyond it.

At the moment of writing, we have not heard what is the attitude of the Parish Council towards the Starkey gift. If it is not too late, we would call their particular attention to the sneer that they "should be suddenly called upon to constitute themselves into a Malcontents' Burial Society free from any control of any religious authorities almost provokes a smile." They should not, however, care even if it provoked a grin, having regard to the fact that he would probably be the only grinner; they should accept the gift and proceed to comply with its terms and conditions, utterly contemptuous of what the vindictive Vicar thought, what he said, or what he did.

TELLING THE TALE OF THE WEST.

'WARE WANGLING WEEKS, "GUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT."

As the following advertisement has been appearing pretty extensively, we think a few cautionary words necessary:

> Canada.—The only British farmer who has visited Western Canada on two occasions as the guest of the Canadian Government is receiving letters by every mail from farmers of repute, who are his personal friends, asking for farm help. Suitable persons can see these letters, and take their choice of the situations offered gratis. —Weeks, Chippenham, Wilts.

Those who reply to this alluring advertisement are placed in possession of a circular letter which is a mere fairy tale from beginning to end. Weeks tells us he is "a British farmer with no interest in Canada." Why is he not attending to his farm instead of acting as emigration agent? We suggest to Weeks that he finds the latter avocation more congenial and remunerative. Weeks in his circular letter claims that he has already sent out to Canada 4,000 men; and on his own showing he has earned £4,000 in poll fees, to say nothing of the enormous commissions on the passage money to which he may have been entitled. He would be a long time before he made as much from a British farm. In any event, a person who has upon two occasions been the "guest of the Canadian Government," should be the last person to go to for candid and disinterested advice regarding the country—it would be the height of boorishness for him to say anything unpleasant of his kind hosts or their belongings.

SEND NO MONEY!

A WIND JAMMER FOR GAPING MOUTHS.

The notorious bogus pawnbrokers, Davis and Co., of 284, Brixton Road, are still, by the connivance of the less scrupulous section of the Press, able to carry on their frauds upon the poor and ignorant. Under the impression, craftily instilled into the announcement, that the goods offered are forfeited pledges, and therefore likely to be great bargains, victims believe the lying assertions in a catalogue of astounding "sacrifices," of which the following, which appeared in November last, is a fair sample:—

> 10s. 6d. (worth £2 2s.)—Organ-Tone Melodeon. Magnificent instrument; 12-fold bellows (metal bound), 40 sets reeds, 4 acting stops, 2 bass chords, rich, powerful tone; in perfect order. Sacrifice, 10s. 6d. Approval willingly before payment.

A country cousin forwarded half-a-guinea—to get, in exchange, a broken instrument which, even when perfect, did not in any way justify the ecstasies of the advertisement. As it was obviously no good to anybody, it naturally did not meet with his approval. It was therefore returned at once to Davis, who replied that the wind-jammer was "quite perfect when despatched," and that the would-be musician must claim from the Post Office for the damage. The postal authorities, of course, adopt the usual attitude in such cases—namely, take refuge behind the assertion (which, in view of the character of the senders, is in all likelihood accurate) that the packing was not such as to afford adequate protection from the ordinary risks of transit by post. The point is, however, immaterial—as the article was, obviously, not approved, and that Davis' should have raised it but serves to show the poverty of their excuses. Despite many urgent applications from the poor person who has been done out of his money in this way, the "pawnbrokers" refuse to return the amount paid, and still calmly continued to advertise their "philanthropic" offer of the magnificent £2 2s. worth for one-fourth of that sum. They confess in a letter they have "several to dispose of"—though, of course, the phrase in their announcement, "in perfect order," suggests to any reasonable mind the offer of a single secondhand instrument. Our correspondent should certainly sue them in the County Court. Meantime, we would repeat our warning against this nefarious firm, which has long been preying upon the pockets of the credulous. Send no money!

"BILKING" BROTHER BONES.

THE BITTER BLEAT OF THE BANJO-BANGERS.

Mr. Chas. Henry Phipps, of 28, Silchester Road, W., states that the world's rights of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels are vested in himself, with the exception of a ten-mile London radius, and that anyone infringing his monopoly will be proceeded against. It is a pity that Phipps, who is so jealous of his own rights, should not have some consideration for those of others. For instance, on March 11th his company were billed to appear at the Grand Theatre, Lancaster. As a matter of fact, they played two houses there on the previous day, and on the 11th performed to the first house. When the time came for the second entertainment, the company refused to appear because a number were in arrears with their wages. We wish to make it perfectly clear that the dispute had nothing whatever to do with the management of the Grand Theatre. Several members of the troupe who were able to pay their rail fare back to London called upon us, and laid against Phipps a very definite charge of bilking, whereupon we wrote that gentleman asking for his side of the story. Here it is:—

> The majority of the company who were at the County Theatre, Lancaster, *are* still performing in the above show under my direction with the exception of a few of the members who, by their own actions, rendered themselves liable to instant dismissal, and I might say, were it worth my valuable time and money I should certainly take action against these few members for damages.

We put it to Phipps that those referred to refused to play because they did not get paid. We have seen copies of the agreements with some members, and it is perfectly clear to us that the reason "Bones" would not play was because he was not paid.

Your Last Chance to Win £7 a Week for Life, and £1,250. Final Coupon this week.

BOWLER BOWLED.

A CIGARETTE SCHEME WHICH ENDED IN SMOKE.

That enterprising individual, Frank E. Bowler, has lately been running a concern called the Semi-Circular Cigarette Syndicate, Limited, at 4 and 5, Warwick Court, High Holborn. The company was to possess the modest cash capital of £500, shares of a similar nominal value being allotted to Bowler "as consideration for the exploitation, formation and registration expenses incurred by him," but, from the Return lodged at Somerset House, it would appear that only £2 was ever actually provided, namely, £1 by Bowler, described as of 42, Doughty Street, London—he appears to have yet another address, namely, 48, Coleridge Road, Walthamstow—and £1 by a solicitor's managing clerk. A kind of type-written prospectus (undated, but apparently issued last autumn) appealing for the cash capital, makes up, however, for the modesty of the resources of the company with some very tall talk.

ROSY RINGS.

The principal part of the scheme was, it appears, to obtain annual subscribers of £1 1s., who would also become purchasers of tobacco. Bowler makes the apparently bold, but really very guarded, statement that "it is possible (!) to obtain 5,000 subscribers," from whom an annual profit would be derived of £1 1s. a head as subscription, and "an average profit of only £1 per subscriber per annum for goods supplied"—together, £10,250. From the tower of this dazzling castle in the air he then proceeds to knock a few bricks, in the shape of deductions for "estimated" expenses—leaving, as he triumphantly puts it, "a profit of £800 per annum upon each £100 invested in the Syndicate." Bowler does not explain why it is necessary to share with any Tom, Dick or Harry who is prepared to put down a few pounds the millions he has apparently but to reach forth to secure. The glowing prospect was also held out of the benefit of some patent of Bowler's, by the aid of which it was, "confidently expected" that each one pound share in the Syndicate would reach "the very high premium price of £50."

ASHES AND BITTER END.

Alas for the best-laid schemes of mice and men! The optimistic Bowler, despite his wealth of estimates, failed dismally in his attempt to raise the comparatively insignificant sum necessary to work his wonderful scheme. Those who turned the deaf ear must be thanking their lucky stars, as a would-be customer who sent £16 for goods has not obtained them or the return of his money, and the company itself appears to be derelict and to have left its registered address.

The following candid letter is from the late Secretary, and is addressed to the confiding gentleman who trusted Bowler with money:—

> My brother-in-law and myself (the former has been a nominal director of the Semi-Circular Cigarette concern) confronted Mr. Bowler, the "sole Governing Life Director," with the facts of your case and, after much cross questioning, got the admission from him that he had *not* supplied your goods, but had been utilising the money for his own private uses, anticipating that a prospective investor who, he said, had told him he would at the end of the week put £250 into the concern, would have handed in his cheque for that amount. This, we pointed out, was no excuse and that he had no right to divert moneys paid for goods to his private use. He then said he could borrow the money and send off your goods and give us full control in the future, and we left it at that. On Tuesday he produced your letter giving him until to-day to supply goods or refund money, and I have delayed writing you because of that extension. This morning I learn that neither goods nor money have been sent you. Subsequent investigations revealed such an unsatis actory state of affairs in connection with the Syndicate that neither my brother-in-law nor myself felt that we were justified in being any longer connected with it, so we resigned forthwith, and requested Mr. Bowler to remove from these offices after to-morrow (Saturday), when he will be indebted to us for rent to the extent of some £6 6s. . . . I should place *very little reliance* in any promises that he may make to you by letter. . . . He told us a lot of lies both on Monday and Tuesday.

We doubt not that the agile Bowler will soon find another outlet for his energies, but we think that those who provide the wherewithal for his operations will not be JOHN BULL readers.

BEGGARS ON HORSEBACK.

SOCIALIST THEORY AND TRADES UNION PRACTICE.

We hear a great deal of talk from time to time about "trades union conditions of labour"—meaning the conditions which, in the opinion of trades unionists, should govern the relations of employers and employed. We are in general sympathy with workers who aspire to a larger share of the good things of life, but we expect agitators and other "advanced" people to practise what they preach. The officials of the Boilermakers' and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Union apparently believe that "consistency is the virtue of fools," if a recent instance of their treatment of an employee is to be taken as a sample of their general dealings. One of our Newcastle readers worked for seven months as a clerk in the offices of the Union. At the end of this time he was summarily dismissed without notice, the ostensible excuse being that, under altogether exceptional circumstances, he had exceeded his usual mid-day leave. Not content with this harsh and arbitrary proceeding, the General Secretary of the Union now refuses to give our correspondent a testimonial for the period of his employment by the Society, or at any rate ignores the letters in which application for a testimonial is made.

Without a recent testimonial it is well-nigh impossible for a clerk to obtain employment, in view of the enormous competition he has to face, so that our correspondent's situation is a particularly hard one. What would be said by the officials of the Boilermakers' Union if these oppressive tactics had been pursued by any "capitalistic" employer? The luckless tyrant would assuredly have been mercilessly pilloried in every Labour print and his conduct held up to execration on a hundred platforms. Such glaring inconsistency would be amusing if it were not so serious. We are grateful to our correspondent for calling our attention to this somewhat disgusting sample of "Socialistic" equity. We begin to understand what Mr. G. N. Barnes meant when he recently referred to the "cant of trades unionists." He was not speaking without his "book"!

CHILD-SNATCHING GUARDIANS.

WHY THE POOR HATE THE POOR LAW.

It would appear that the Manchester Guardians are wont to carry things in a somewhat high-handed way where the children of the poor are concerned. We have received a letter from a mother who has been cut off from all communication with her three children in a peculiarly heartless manner. The poor woman's husband is a hopeless drunkard, and she was consequently compelled to apply to the Guardians for assistance. The Relief Committee decided to send the children to a "home," and they were accordingly removed to an institution at Handforth, in Cheshire. The mother, who was devoted to her little ones, kept up a regular correspondence with the eldest girl (who was fourteen years of age) until a few weeks ago—when, to her surprise and dismay, the child ceased to reply to her letters. An appeal to the Superintendent of the Home elicited the remarkable information that the children had left the institution and that he could give the mother no information whatever as to their whereabouts. The distracted woman then went to see a certain lady member of the Board of Guardians, and was coolly informed that the three children had been "adopted" till they were 18 years of age, but that she could not disclose their addresses, as the drunken father had contributed nothing to their keep. The poor woman is thus left in cruel ignorance of the condition of her children and a prey to all manner of torturing fears.

Small wonder that the poor hate the Poor Law system and all its works! Happily, there is a Habeas Corpus Act for the prevention of this kind of tyranny. Our correspondent will do well to lay her case before the Manchester Stipendiary. If the facts are as stated, he is bound to put the law in motion. Meanwhile, we shall keep a vigilant eye on the "Guardians" of Manchester's poor.

"Bullets"—the Best-judged Competition—with most Prizes. See page 506.

"ALL SIR GARNET."

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM WOLSELEY.

Field-Marshal Lord Wolseley now lies with the illustrious dead beneath the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral. In the early 'eighties he was a popular idol, so much the standard of excellence that a synonymous phrase for "fit and well" was "I'm all Sir Garnet." His military career is too well-known to need repetition, but what we think likely to be of service to the rank and file in His Majesty's Army to-day are a few epigrammatic remarks from his "Soldiers' Pocket Book," which we reproduce, as the volume has long been out of print:—

ADVICE TO OFFICERS.

Let us give up the phrase "officer and gentleman" and substitute that of "soldier." Let the word "officer" be used as seldom as possible, so that the private may really feel that there is no gulf between him and his commander. The bestowal of praise creates an intimacy between the giver and receiver. Study to be familiar without being vulgar. Many men only know their officers as men who award punishment. Upon all occasions appeal to the men's honour. Cease to treat them as unreasoning children who are unable to look after themselves. We are too prone to fall down before the great Duke and think that everything he did was right. Picture to yourselves what the Duke might have done if his soldiers had had for him the feelings that the French had for Napoleon. No man can respond with greater alacrity than the British soldier when an officer who understands him makes an appeal.

MILITARY SPIRIT AND DISCIPLINE.

The soldier is a peculiar animal who can alone be brought to the highest efficiency by inducing him to believe that he belongs to a regiment that is infinitely superior to those round about him.

The better you dress a soldier the more highly he will be thought of by women, and consequently by himself. Whatever the officer thinks fine the soldier will think so too.

Make a man proud of himself and his corps and he can always be depended upon.

Soldiers, like missionaries, must be fanatics.

Soldiers, particularly old soldiers, are naturally grumblers. Their safety valve is a good "growl." The best and most faithful servants are often the greatest grumblers. This disposition cannot be treated too cautiously and with too light a hand. The tendency should be checked in young officers, for if they grumble the privates will follow in a chorus that will soon grow too loud.

No English soldier who is well mounted should be taken prisoner.

Wolseley was no lover of the War Correspondent, styling him "the curse of armies." As he had a high sense of humour, however, perhaps this was one of his little jokes. His views as regards veracity would be altogether too broad for Little Bethel brethren, for he lays it down that "As a nation we are bred to feel it a disgrace even to succeed by falsehood. Pretty sentences such as 'Honesty is the best policy,' and 'Truth always wins in the long run,' are only fit for children's copy books." Be that as it may, Wolseley was a great soldier. Peace to his soul!

A WARNING TO WINNERS.

FANTEE BUCK'S IMPUDENT CADGING.

The publication of the name of a Hampshire winner of one of our "Bullets" prizes has brought him a letter from J. T. Amuah, Junr., who must be one of the most audacious Gold Coast niggers extant. "I ask you," he says, "to kindly be friendly with me and to correspond with each other. I promise to be faithful to you as I know very well you will show to me. I am African Belonging to the fantee tribe you will not mind. . . . Please try and send me per your writing one Gents Tweed hat size 6¾ (anu kind), two pairs of Gents fancy socks, handkerchiefs and some sweets, such as toffee. Please do not be angry of my troubling you by askin you to send me the things named above. Reply if you please per the first opportunity." If the rest of the Fantee Tribe are anything like J. T., they will probably be down on our "Bullets" winners in turn for a few other trifles—say, half-a-load of onions and a hundredweight of mustard. In fact, we hear that many of them have already been pestered with somewhat similar cadging appeals.

MUNICIPAL MANSLAUGHTER.

INFIRMARY DOORS CLOSED AGAINST A DYING CHILD.

The Poor Law authorities of the City of Glasgow would do well to exercise a little human sympathy in their dealings with the victims of misfortune. A particularly revolting instance of official brutality has recently been brought to our notice. A poor labourer, whose average earnings amounted to something like fifteen shillings a week, applied for relief in respect of a sick child, whose condition was so bad that skilled nursing and medical treatment were urgently needed. According to the Poor Law Medical Officer, the little patient was suffering from "malnutrition," its unhappy plight being doubtless due to starvation. The doctor very properly recommended that it should be removed to the Poor Law Infirmary; but the Relief Inspector refused to sanction any such course, on the ground that the father was in constant employment and earning twenty-five shilling per week—both statements being untrue. Even had this been an accurate estimate of the man's earnings, we should have seen no reason for the refusal of the relief. As a matter of fact, the poor fellow had only two shillings in the world at the time when he received this heartless reply to his application.

Unfortunately, the worst is yet to be told. The child was subsequently taken to a private doctor, who certified that its case was one for immediate hospital treatment, and gave the mother a signed letter to take to the Poor Law Infirmary. By this time the child was in the last stages of exhaustion. Human life, however, is apparently of much less importance in Glasgow than official red-tape. The distressed mother was curtly informed that her application had already been dealt with, and the hospital doors were shut against her and her dying child.

The poor mite's death soon followed, and we are bound to say that in all probability this fatality was directly due to the callous indifference of the Relief authorities. There is every reason to believe that had the child received proper attention when it was asked for, it would now have been alive. Whether the Glasgow Parish Council approves of such action on the part of its officials we are unable to say.

Perhaps our Glasgow readers will inquire.

THERE'S A PICTURE FOR YOU!

CINEMATOGRAPH SHOWS FOR SILHOUETTE SOLDIERS.

Poor Colonel Seely! A soldier himself—and one of the best—he finds it his business from day to day to champion the cause of that fraud of a force, the Territorials. The officers and men—what there are of them—are splendid, and their patriotism is beyond praise, but the body is in numbers like Silhouette's skeleton army—a mere shadow of what it is supposed to be. And this in spite of all kinds of inducements, such as the following extraordinary document, issued the other day:—

7TH BATT. THE ROYAL WARWICKSHIRE REGIMENT, "F" COMPANY.
LEAMINGTON DETACHMENT.

Orders for the Week ending 26th March, 1913. The Company will parade on Wednesday, March 26th, at 7.30 p.m., to attend a "Military Night" at the Royal Leamington Picture Palace. March off at 7.40. The Band will attend. Dress:—Scarlet, white belts, blue trousers and caps. This is arranged by kind permission of the Proprietor of the Theatre, in the hope of getting a good number of recruits, and I trust you will do your utmost to attend and assist in making it a great success. A free pass will be given to all men who parade. Fifty men have joined Nuneaton Company by this means, and fifty at Coventry, and I do not want Leamington to be behind. If you have completed your engagement this year I hope you will come down and sign on for another year.

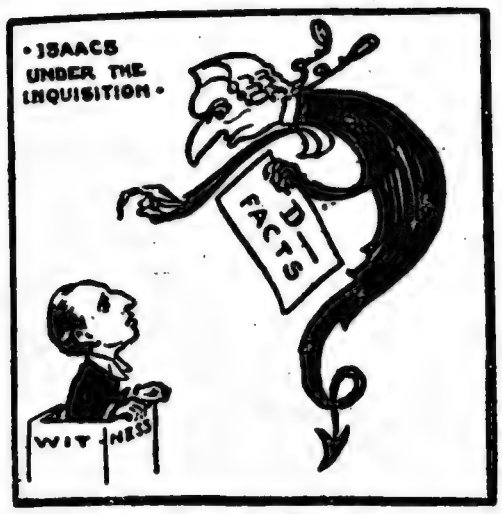
H. E. HAKE, Captain.
Commanding "F" Company, 7th Batt. R.W.R.

We have from time to time chronicled different dodges which have been tried to tempt recruits—railway tickets to the seaside, whist drives, packets of cigarettes, and toffee—patriotic ladies even going so far as to form themselves into committees and arrange "kiss in the ring" entertainments for Terrier tyros—but think they all yield the palm (and the Huntley and Palmer) to this moving (picture) appeal!

Our Football Pension Won. See page 477.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."



He who so oft has made to quake
Some trembling witness in the box
Of his own physic doth partake,
And gets, instead of gives, shrewd knocks.

Beside brave Wolseley's hallowed tomb
The shades of former heroes stand,
And welcome to the common doom
One hero more—to Shadowland.

Pacific Winston's olive branch
Germania with scorn rejects,
And further ships proceeds to launch—
The sort of conduct one expects.

His former chief Sir Percy Scott
Attacks with rancour in the press;
But "Condor" Charlie answers not,
Which leaves Sir Percy in a mess.

Stout Adrianople falls at length
Before the Bulgar-Servian force,
And shattered Turkey, sapped of strength,
Sinks lower in her downward course.

Though bobbies don the hobble skirt,
And blouse and hat and all complete,
To catch the gay, philandering flirt,
They somehow can't disguise their feet.

ROUGH ON RATEPAYERS.

OXFORD CONTRACTORS HAULED OVER THE COALS.

According to the local press, the late contractors for the supply of coals to the Oxford Guardians have been detected delivering an inferior quality to that which they undertook to supply. The offence was, it is stated, admitted and the contract cancelled. So far, so good; but what the ratepayers of Oxford want to know is, who are the culprits? The Poor Law Committee who investigated the case reported that the firm admitted the breach, and gave an explanation which was not considered satisfactory; whereupon the Rev. L. R. Phelps, the Chairman of the Guardians, chipped in with the statement, "It is only fair to say that the Board have not sustained any damage"—this, apparently, meaning either that it was the first delivery under the contract; if not, that evidence showed that the former supplies had been as agreed; or, alternatively, that the contractors had confessed to previous delinquencies and refunded the excess improperly obtained. In view of the right of the ratepayers to know how much, if any, of their money has been in hands not entitled to it, the policy of "hush" on the part of the Guardians is much to be deprecated. Possibly, however, the blame should be cast upon the local papers for suppressing the names—a possibility made rather probable by the fact that at least ten firms of coal merchants in Oxford have had to advertise that they are not implicated!

A MODERN STEPHEN BLACKPOOL.

"HARD TIMES" STILL FOR MATRIMONIAL SUFFERERS.

A Midland reader informs us that he had the misfortune to marry a woman who in many ways made his life intolerable. He left home for a few days, thinking this would frighten her and bring her to her senses; but she promptly applied to the police court for a separation on the ground of desertion. He thought it would be better for his future health and happiness not to contest the matter, and an order for 10s. a week was made. The wife then constantly created a disturbance where he was employed, with the result that he was dismissed, and his payments consequently got into arrear. She then obtained a warrant for his arrest and he was committed to prison for two months, notwithstanding that he explained to the magistrate that he had another situation to go to and would soon be able to make up the arrears. Since coming out of gaol he has been unable to obtain work and has heard that another warrant has been issued. "What is the end to be?" he pathetically asks. "Am I to be hounded down until I am forced to become a criminal?" As the law is at present, a vindictive woman can be very awkward in such circumstances, and we can only advise the poor man to apply for a summons to vary the order, on the ground that his circumstances have changed since it was made. Unfortunately, as will be seen, it is in matters matrimonial easy to "jump out of the frying pan into the fire."

Our Pension Won. Another Waiting. Last Chance this week. Particulars on page 499.

"EXTREME JUSTICE IS EXTREME INJUSTICE."

HOW THE CRIME OF IGNORANCE IS PUNISHED.

To board a vessel in dock without the permission of the Master is a punishable offence under certain sections of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1894. This particular piece of legislation is undoubtedly directed against persons likely to intrude for felonious or improper purposes, and it is inconceivable that it was ever intended to penalise respectable tradesmen in the pursuit of a lawful calling. Unfortunately, however, the intentions of the legislature are frequently ignored in the administration of the law. One of our Liverpool readers complains that he was recently summoned to the Police Court on a charge of infringing this particular enactment, and fined eleven shillings and sixpence.

He has for many years carried on business in Liverpool in the pressing, cleaning and general renovation of old clothes, and has secured a good deal of custom from the crews of various liners calling at the port. It has been his practice to board the vessels on their arrival in dock, and he has never had reason to suppose that his methods of seeking patronage was objectionable either to the police or to the shipping authorities. A few weeks ago, quite suddenly and without warning, he was informed that his action in thus boarding vessels in harbour was illegal, and that he must appear at the Liverpool Police Court in answer to a criminal charge.

We think our readers will agree with us in condemning the officious and arbitrary act of the Liverpool River Police. Surely it was their duty to inform the unwitting offender of the state of the law, and to warn him of the consequences of its breach, before taking the extreme course of criminal prosecution for so trifling and technical an offence.

The Magistrates, too, appear to have acted in a harsh and arbitrary manner. It was proved at the Police Court that the defendant before boarding the ship had actually sought, and obtained, the consent of the second officer. Such permission constitutes no valid defence under the Act, the Master of the vessel being the only person qualified to give permission; but the fact that the defendant had done all he knew to put himself in the right was surely sufficient to justify the Court in discharging him with a warning. Summary conviction and fine for a purely technical offence was a high-handed and tyrannical proceeding, which will earn the condemnation of all who value justice and fair play.

A DRILL SERGEANT'S INDISCRETION.

COLD-SHOULDER FOR A COLDSTREAMER.

There is a certain class of non-commissioned officer in the British Army troubled with a disease which the medical fraternity would call *tumor capitas*—in plain English, "swelled head." The only effective cure for such a malady is fierce exposure to the light of day. A week or so ago, Private James Harris, after seven years' service in the Coldstream Guards, took his discharge to the Army Reserve. His character, while acting as one of the bodyguard of His Majesty, was "very good"—moreover, he had done well for his regiment by winning several championship boxing competitions, the latest being the Army Middle-Weight, 1912. After receiving his Certificate of Discharge at Chelsea Barracks, he proceeded to the canteen to have a farewell drink with some of his comrades, when, to his utter astonishment, he was tapped on the shoulder by the non-commissioned officer on canteen duty and informed that he must leave the place immediately. Quite naturally, Harris asked upon whose authority he was being ejected, to learn that the Regimental Drill Sergeant had given the order. Of course, the ex-soldier had to obey, but before going out of the barrack gate he saw the Regimental Sergeant Major, who superseded the insulting order and allowed Harris to return to the canteen and have a parting glass with his old comrades. So far, so good. But what about the drill sergeant? He should report himself "sick" at once. *Tumor capitas* is contagious, and he should at once be isolated—Coventry, we believe, possesses an excellent hospital for the treatment of this particular disease.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCXL.

[*In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.*]

PHYSICIAN'S PLEA FOR POOR PATIENT.

Here are two letters which speak for themselves. The first is from a medical man, and the second from his patient.

> I am enclosing a letter I have just received. The writer is a lad of about 19 years of age. I knew him for several months as a healthy, hard-working farm hand. Then he came to consult me about a "lump in his back," as he called it. On careful examination I diagnosed tuberculous disease of the spine, with a very marked deformity. For some time I treated the lad and persuaded his master to allow him to rest in bed for a few weeks. But, obviously, this could not go on very long, so using my own and other influence, I got the lad into St. Anne's Home, in Bridlington. Needless to say I did not charge the poor lad any fees, but procured him such things as emulsion. The Home at length closed (last November, I believe) and I then exerted pressure at the Leeds General Infirmary. Of course, they couldn't keep so long-standing a case in hospital, and at my suggestion he was admitted for a few days in order to qualify for a bed at a convalescent home in connection with the institution. There he stayed a good time, and was fitted with a spinal jacket and sent out. The pathos of the story lies here. The lad is one of a large family and I believe nearly all are younger than he. He has only a widowed mother, who cannot afford to have him at home. You probably know enough about country doctors to be well aware that most of them have a hard enough fight to make ends meet, but I cannot quiet my conscience without at least making an appeal. The letter, to me, seems to fairly breathe with the idea that no one cares for the lad, and I cannot think you will overlook it.

And now comes the poor youth's letter, referred to by the doctor:—

> Sir, I just write you a few lines to let you know how I am going on as you asked me to let you know. I am about the same. I have had no multion since I came home as we have not been able to aford it. I should of course wrote and let you know about myself before but when I first came home my mother said she could not aford to keep me and would have to try and get me allowance from the parish as they do about here and they would not allow me only 3s. a week and that don't buy much. They said I had been in Yorkshire long enough to be aloud from there and they wrote about me, but that is six weeks ago now and they have not heard anything yet, and the man came to-day who fetch the money and he said he did not except they would here now but I don't know where they wrote to about me. They only ask me what part of Yorkshire I had been in.

What a life to be sure! And this is civilisation. The boy cannot earn his own living, and he has no relatives who can maintain him. Perhaps some of our readers can solve the problem.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCXXX.—H. J., 2s. 6d.
CCXXXI.—"Baccy," 24s.
CCXXXII.—"Baccy," 8s.
CCXXXIII.—"Baccy," 8s.; P. H. R., 1s.
CCXXXV.—"Toronto," 4s.
CCXXXVII.—"A Helper," 1s.; "Annie and Lottie," 2s.; "Don," 6d.; "A Reader," 6d.; "Churchman," 6s. 8d.; E. T. L., 2s. 6d.; "Portman Sympathisers," 2s.; J. C., 2s.; A. W., 2s.; "Saracen," 2s.; "Tom," 2s. 6d.; L. B., 5s.; A. J. E. S., 8s.
CCXXXVIII.—T. B., 1s.; "Scottish Widow," 10s.; "Elstow," 1s.; B. B., 1s.; G. R., 1s.; "Charlie," 1s.; J. S. M. 1s. 6d.; F. W., 1s.; W. C. S., 3s. 6d.; J. F., 6d.; J. H. N., 2s.; "Churchman," 6s. 8d.; "Wray," 2s. 6d.; E. G. D., 5s.; "Snowdon," 1s.; T. S., 1s.; A. E. W., 2s. 6d.; "Kildonan," 2s.; A. J. E. S., 8s.; D.O.U.T.E.R., 2s. 6d.
CCXXXIX.—"Kamloops, Can.," 2s. 5d.; A. J. E. S., 8s. 7d.; "A Division," 2s. 6d.; "Book," 1s.; G. E. P., 1s.; "Churchman," 6s. 8d.

Another £450 for the best "Bullet" received. See page 506.

Just the Hat you want for Lounge and Holiday Wear.

A really happy combination of Perfect Comfort and Good Style — suitable for most occasions — Ideal for Neglige Wear, Evening Wear, Garden Wear, Golfing, Cycling, Tennis, Boating, for all but formal occasions.

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. . This hat can be obtained from any of our branches except the Gracechurch Street one, or post free from our Mail Order Dept., at 388, Strand. In ordering by post please state the size of hat usually worn, and the Colour required. Remittance must accompany all orders, but the hat will be exchanged (if not approved) or money refunded. Please mention "John Bull" when ordering.

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Please mention JOHN BULL.

A COUNCIL OF EVIL.

PRINCIPAL CINQUE PORT GOING "DOWN THE SINK."

It is difficult to judge whether the members of the municipal authority that governs the destiny of Dover are really knaves, or only fools.

The Harbour Board propose to transform the sea-front into a commercial dock. An empowering Bill is now before Parliament, but at a recent meeting of the Town Council it was decided to oppose it. Something has, however, occurred to alter the views of some of the councillors.

This leads up to the extraordinary affair which occurred in the Council Chamber, when the Works Committee—without regard to the legality or otherwise of their actions—attempted to over-ride the decision of the Council to which they are subordinate, on the very frail ground that the meeting where that decision was come to was itself irregular, there being no majority of the entire Council in favour of the resolution, but only a majority of those present.

Councillor Appleton started the affair by proposing that the Committee decline to spend public money in opposing the Bill. Alderman Baker retorted by asking if Aldermen Mowll and Walmisley, being Registrar and Engineer respectively of the Harbour Board promoting the Bill, were entitled to vote on the matter. The Town Clerk replied in the negative, but both these gentlemen recorded their votes when a poll was taken, the ballot showing 12 votes to 9 in opposition to the Council's decision to oppose the Bill. The Mayor, who himself voted, accepted the votes of these two paid officers of the Board.

Councillor Farley, the Deputy-Mayor, and one of the few public-spirited members of the effete Council, strongly denounced the Committee's action all along, pointing out that they could not over-ride the Council's decision. Confusion and chaos followed, and in the midst of a scene which, happily, would be possible in few other councils, the Deputy-Mayor tendered his resignation.

Before the meeting closed the members were all on their feet, jostling and gesticulating like street arabs at a free bun struggle, and all bellowing personalities in a manner that would disgrace a suffragette meeting.

No wonder Dover is decaying. Its Council is, obviously, one of those which, in the words of "Cicero," do not lessen evils but rather increase them.

TROUBLE ON THE TRAMWAYS.

HIGH-HANDED AND UNJUST ACTION OF L.C.C. OFFICIALS.

We have received a deputation representing a large number of drivers and conductors in the employ of the London County Council. It appears that a few days ago these men received a notification to present themselves before their superiors, and, on doing so, had sprung upon them all sorts of charges in regard to matters, such as alleged trivial accidents to passengers and breaches of various regulations, which had occurred several months and, in at least one case, over a year before! The men emphatically repudiated any remissness on their part, but, in view of the lapse of time, it was, of course, difficult to disprove positively the allegations. About 40 or 50 of them have been arbitrarily suspended for periods of from a couple of days to a fortnight, and there is, of course, no tribunal to which they can appeal. The real reason for this extraordinary action on the part of the authorities is believed by the sufferers from it to lie in the fact that, owing to the breakdown of the Greenwich Power Station a fortnight ago, some 300 cars had to be withdrawn from the service. Consequently, the spare men, who receive temporary employment as circumstances justify, have not been called upon recently and are naturally suffering. The regular drivers and conductors, however, are not wanting in sympathy, and, we are assured, would have been only too ready to stand off voluntarily for a day or two, to enable their less fortunate colleagues to earn a living; but they, of course, deeply resent the high-handed and unjust way in which a loophole has been provided for the "spares," as a stigma has been placed upon a very deserving, hard-working and respectable class of public servant. After all, the L.C.C. authorities should be just before they are generous.

"TREMBLE AND OBEY!"

DESPARD'S "DOTTY" DESPOTISM DISHED.

Captain Despard, Chief Constable of Lanarkshire, appears to be fired with a masterly spirit—a spirit which would be more appropriate in the Czar of All the Russias or the Sultan of All the Turks. The other day, James Penman, an Uddington spirit dealer, appeared before the Justices' Court at Hamilton on a charge of serving two constables with refreshment, namely, a tin of sardines and oatcakes of the value of sixpence, and harbouring them while consuming the same contrary to his Mightiness' order that licensed victuallers were to consider constables as being on duty whether, in fact, they were on duty or not. One of the men at the time he was discovered in the heinous act of taking food on the premises had gone off duty and was in plain clothes; the other appears to have been on duty, but was in plain clothes also. One of them Penman knew, the other he did not; but there is not the slightest reason to disbelieve his statement that he thought both men were off duty, and that he had no knowledge whatever of the extraordinary "order" which the local Police Superintendent said he "had endeavoured to make clear to the licence-holders in the district." In the end, the charge failed, as it was right that it should. "Apart from the question whether the order of the Chief Constable was properly issued or not," the Justices dismissed the case on the ground that there was no proof that the defendant know of it. But this ukase or irade is an insult to a police constable's citizen rights, and an intolerable interference with the licensee in his business and his livelihood. Who gave Captain Despard this autocratic power? By what custom of the common law or by what right of statute has he such extraordinary authority? It is certainly preposterous and absurd that a glorified policeman should constitute himself Parliament, Statute Book and Dictator all in one—a sort of trinitarian godhead whose breath is the law.

We shall be amazed indeed, if the licensees of Lanarkshire lie down to be danced on by so ridiculous a potentate. If he *is* the Law, then the Law must be changed, for in such case it is no longer the embodiment of human reason but the exhibition of absurdity.

£10 FOR A PENNY.

As will be seen from the announcement on our first page, Mr. John Taylor, of 51, Colwick Road, Sneinton, Nottingham, has received from us the sum of £10 in exchange for a copy of our issue dated March 22nd and numbered 944472. We are sure all our readers will congratulate Mr. Taylor—and will keep their eyes open in the hope of sharing his good fortune.

OUR OWN ALMANAC.

AP.

The softer seasons creep on us
In sweet, seductive shape;
The mildness in the air proclaims
This is the month of AP.

Tradition warns us we must wear
A mackintosh or cape,
Because of show'rs expected in
The misty month of AP.

If raindrops fall adown the neck
And irritate its nape,
Reflect that flowers follow on
The dewy month of AP.

The rain is needed for the pea,
The turnip, and the grape,
So keep on smiling—but don't leave
Your gamp at home in AP.

Your parents said, "Rain makes you grow,"
So, as there's no escape,
Put up with it; and then, perhaps,
You may grow good in AP.

RICARDO.

Waiting to be Won. £7 a Week for Life and £1,250. Last chance this week.

Are you a good Public Speaker?

How to Acquire this indispensable Factor in Success—
An Invaluable Article for all Public Speakers.

AT no time has the art of Public Speaking been so valuable or the occasions for the making of public speeches so frequent as at the present. No man nowadays can occupy a position of any prominence without being at times faced with the problem of making a speech at some public meeting or semi-private gathering. Indeed, it can almost be said that the man who has never been called upon "to say a few words," has so far made of his life a comparative failure.

To one man the chance of making a speech affords the opportunity for an enhanced reputation; to another it is nothing but a danger. For the man who stutters and stammers, and finally sits down after a speech principally consisting of "ums" and "ers" scarcely enhances his reputation as a keen-witted member of the community or as a man whose intelligence and resource can be depended upon in a business crisis.

An Invaluable Aid to Success.

Yet the latter has frequently only himself to blame for his inability to turn such opportunities to advantage in his struggle for success. For the gift of Public Speaking is one of the most valuable qualities that the man who wishes to get on can possess. The man who can speak with fluency and power, who can sway his audience and make his points with success, has an immense advantage in the struggle of modern life. And this power can be acquired by the most diffident of men. The vast majority of successful speakers have only developed the latent ability that lies within every intelligent man.

For that reason, the publication of "The Book of Public Speaking" is an event of the greatest importance. For it is the first comprehensive work upon this important subject ever published in this country. It provides at once a collection of the greatest speeches of the world's greatest orators and at the same time a reliable guide to the Art of Public Speaking, written by men who are themselves famous as speakers of the highest merit.

The World's Greatest Speeches.

There is hardly an orator of note of recent years who is not represented in the work; there is scarcely a subject of importance or of interest that is not dealt with in some of the speeches. Political speeches, Religious addresses, After-Dinner speeches, scientific and literary lectures—all have been brought together to form a work of enthralling interest to all intelligent people.

Among the great speakers whose speeches are included in the work are:—

Lord Rosebery.
Lord Beaconsfield.
H. H. Asquith.
A. J. Balfour.
W. E. Gladstone.
Sir Edward Clarke.
Andrew Lang.
D. Lloyd George.
Winston Churchill.
Mark Twain.
Spencer Leigh Hughes.
Joseph Chamberlain.
Max O'Rell.
R. Waldo Emerson.
Harold Cox.
Woodrow Wilson.
G. Bernard Shaw.
Charles Dickens.
Chauncey Depew.
Horatio Bottomley.
John Bright.
Sir A. Conan Doyle.
Sir Edward Grey.
Earl Halsbury.
Sir Henry Irving.
Lord Fisher.
Abraham Lincoln.
Justin McCarthy.
Viscount Milner.
M. Poincaré.
Whitelaw Reid.
Theodore Roosevelt.
Philip Snowden.
Ian Maclaren.
Emile Zola.
Augustine Birrell.
Sir A. W. Pinero.
Etc., etc.

For the Public Speaker.

The value of these speeches to the Public Speaker can hardly be over-estimated. Each one of the speeches included in the work serves as a model for the construction of a successful speech that can be studied with advantage by the practised speaker and the novice alike. Each speech also serves as a fund of valuable ideas to be used in the actual preparation of a speech. Each page of "The Book of Public Speaking" furnishes ideas, suggestions, and an endless amount of material that can be used with advantage by all who are faced with the task of preparing a speech.

How to Speak in Public.

Moreover, the value of the work is greatly enhanced by a series of remarkable articles on the art of Speaking in Public written by famous speakers and dealing with every phase of the subject in such a clear manner as to form a complete guide to Public Speaking..

The whole work is edited by A. C. Fox Davies, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, who is himself well-known as a Public Speaker, and he has been assisted by—

Rt. Hon. T. J. MACNAMARA, M.P.,
on "How to Make an Effective Speech";

ARTHUR BOURCHIER, M.A. (the well-known Actor),
on "How to Prepare and Deliver a Speech";

J. L. GRIFFITHS (U.S.A. Consul-General, London),
on "After Dinner Speaking";

A. C. BENSON, M.A., C.V.O., F.R.H.S., etc.
on "The Art of Lecturing";

ALBERT CREW (of Gray's Inn, Barrister-at-Law),
on "The Conduct of and Procedure at Meetings."

These articles cover every phase of the Art of Speaking from the choice of a subject and the collection of material to the art of gesture and the silencing of interrupters. It is safe to say that there is not a public speaker who will not gain by the careful study and application of their many valuable hints and suggestions.

Indispensable for all Speakers.

Altogether, there is no doubt that Politicians, Debaters, Clergymen, and all others whose position in life calls for the power of being able to speak in public, will find "The Book of Public Speaking" an absolutely indispensable work. However unusual the subject upon which they lack material, they will find it here. Anecdotes, parallels, analogies, ideas, and suggestions—all are to be found in profusion in its pages. Alike for the practised speaker and for the man who wishes to acquire this valuable art, no work so important has ever been published.

A FREE BOOKLET.

The Publishers have prepared an interesting illustrated booklet—which they will send free—describing the work and their offer to deliver the complete work as published for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only, the balance being paid by small monthly payments.

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Please send me, free of charge and without any obligation on my part, full particulars of "The Book of Public Speaking."

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'ERB.: "Got a job for you at last, Bill. Must see the boss at nine to-morrow morning, sharp."
BILL: "Can't go! I've promised to carry the flag in the unemployed percession!"

HOW I COMMENCED.

LIFE STORIES OF EMINENT MEN AND WOMEN.

By "Retlaw."

Mr. C. F. G. Masterman.

I understand that I first saw the light at our ancestral home in Sussex—Rotherfield Hall, near Tunbridge Wells.

Mine was a happy childhood. The recollections of my boyhood are full of pleasant incidents and exciting adventures. I can remember as if it were to-day one occasion when we had the decorators in the house. I can see the furniture in the drawing-room shrouded in white wrappers, and can hear the swish of the brushes as the workmen whitened the ceiling. I was never tired of watching the men slapping on the whitewash. The sight fascinated me; and whenever I could get at the brush and pail I was supremely happy. Therefore, when my father asked me what I would like to be, I naturally replied, "A Whitewasher." Of course, he laughed at my childish ambition, never dreaming that it would grow with the passing years, and that the day would come when I should be acclaimed on all hands as the Chief Whitewasher to the Radical Government.

But much was to happen before that could come to pass. I was sent to school at Weymouth, and thence to Cambridge, where, instead of adopting the careless, happy-go-lucky manners of the average undergraduate, I acquired a sanctimonious style and expression that ultimately stood me in good stead in the party political game.

Realizing that I possessed features of the right cast, and a temperament of the Stiggins order, I became a sort of social worker, taking a supercilious interest in the Camberwell poor, and obtaining a seat on the Board of Guardians. From this to party politics was but a step. Already I had acted as Literary Editor to the *Daily News*—long before its terrible act of backsliding took place—and had written a morbid book about the underworld of humanity entitled "From the Abyss." So when, in 1906, I was returned member for North West Ham in the Radical interest, I was not a bit surprised—at least, not so surprised as I was in 1911, when I was unseated on petition. However, I just managed to gull the electors of South West Bethnal Green, who sent me to Parliament the same year, by the narrowest of majorities—drat that John Bull League!

In the House of Commons I quickly won a reputation for sanctity. Even *Punch* recognised my talents in that direction, recommending that a stained glass window should be erected in my honour. By these judicious means I very soon impressed a mainly Nonconformist Cabinet with my personality, and was presently singled out for preferment. Having cultivated a peculiarly irritating manner of speech and an attitude in the House calculated to enrage the most phlegmatic member of the Opposition, I naturally found much favour in the eyes of the humbugs on my side, who congratulated me with apparent sincerity when I was appointed Under Secretary to the Home Department.

Having achieved this important step, I thought it time to drop the cloak of humility which it had long been my policy to wear, and proceeded to give free vent to my naturally acrimonious disposition, losing no opportunity to irritate and annoy my political opponents gratuitously. In pursuance of this policy, last week I was instrumental in bringing about the suspension of two members of Parliament, to my immense satisfaction and delight.

Our Football Pension Won. See page 477.

OUR ADVICE.

We hear a lot nowadays about the scarcity of men who are capable of earning as much as £5 a week and the struggle for existence of the thousands of men who are not able to demand more than 30s. a week to keep their wives and families.

Although in a few cases "bad luck" may be the reason, there is no disguising the fact that every man has his future in his own hands, more or less, and it is the man who realises this fact that is constantly on the look-out for opportunities for safeguarding himself against unemployment and for improving his present wage by making himself worth more money to either his present employer or a fresh one. No matter what his present occupation is, he is the kind of man who says to himself, "I will lose no time in fitting myself to enter the Motor Industry, which is now in its infancy, and which offers by far the best chances to smart men, and I will call or write at once to the Motor Industry's training centre:—The British School of Motoring, Coventry House, 5 and 6, Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, W (opposite the Prince of Wales Theatre, near Leicester Square), for their Free Illustrated Prospectus (J) on how to obtain instruction in Practical Motoring in my spare time and how to get a berth in the Motor Industry."

This is the kind of man who succeeds—he does not rely upon his present job or trade: he sees that he has two strings to his bow. He is the smart man—are you one also?

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Write Cluett, Peabody & Co., 12 New Union Street, Moor Lane, London, E.C., for free Style Book. Every hosier can obtain Arrow Collars for you at the fixed price of 7d. each, 2 for a shilling. Should yours decline to do so, we will have them sent direct by post.

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As well as those suffering from: BACKACHE, SCIATICA, INDIGESTION, STIFFNESS, NEURITIS, HEADACHE, LUMBAGO, NEURALGIA, COLDS.

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OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P., Speaker of the House of Commons.

Dear Mr. Speaker,—I regret to hear that you have met with a motor mishap. I trust you will speedily recover from the injury you have sustained. I know it's terribly dull in the House just now; but you really cannot be spared. There is no knowing what sort of mess the House may get into next, and at any moment it may want your ruling upon some knotty point. Everybody on both sides feels far more comfortable if you are in the Chair—in case of accidents. Do please get well.

John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Winston S. Churchill, M.P.

Sir,—I beg that you will give immediate attention to the grave labour unrest which prevails in His Majesty's Dockyards. This is no ordinary industrial dispute. It is a symptom fraught with the greatest danger. It is essential that all reasonable steps should be taken to compose the differences which have arisen between the shipyard workers and your department. No niggardly or cheese-paring spirit must be allowed to impede a speedy and just settlement. I call upon you to act effectively and without a moment's delay.

John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Colonel Seely, M.P., Secretary of State for War.

Dear Seely,—You really must press forward in the matter of aerial equipment. There is a widespread feeling that we are behind our rivals in this vital department, and I am bound to say that your recent pronouncements upon the subject have been less explicit than I could have wished. I know quite well that the matter is a delicate one, and that premature publicity may defeat your plans, but, after all, the public have a right to specific assurance upon a matter so vital to national security and defence.

Other countries are pursuing a vigorous aerial policy, and at any moment foreign air-craft may jeopardise our very existence as a nation. Aerial attack can be met only by aerial defence. We must be prepared to meet all comers in the clouds as on the sea. We cannot afford to waste time in any peddling calculation of the cost. We rely upon you to act vigorously—and without delay.

John Bull.

To the Right Hon. A. Bonar Law, M.P.

Dear Leader,—I cannot but admire the pluck with which you are sticking to your thankless job. You tell us that your Party in the House of Commons is more united than ever before. I really shouldn't have thought it—but you should know.

Kendal was a nasty knock, wasn't it, especially after you had gone out of your way to warn people against the Independent Candidate! What can have become of Party discipline? It really looks as though the game is up. What say you to making a start with a Business Government?

John Bull.

To "General" Bramwell Booth, Salvation Army.

Dear "General,"—I note that your recent "self-denial" collections have realised no less a sum than £67,000. The bulk of this money has been contributed by people who sympathise with the "social" and "rescue" work of the Salvation Army. Only a small part of the huge funds is subscribed by your own adherents. For the rest you are a steward of the moneys with which you are entrusted by a liberal and confiding public.

In these circumstances I call upon you to let a little daylight into your financial dealings. You are not justified in squandering public benefactions in the "evangelisation of the masses." In the first place, the masses don't require evangelising, and, in the second place, the money was not given to you for such a purpose. You are not entitled to beg the coppers of the poor in the name of charity, and then to fling them away in fanaticism. If you want money for tambourines and tin-trumpets, then, in the name of common honesty, say so, and take your chance.

John Bull.

To the Steward, Drumcairne, Stewartstown, County Tyrone Erin.

Dear Sir,—I perceive by advertisements in the papers that there is a vacancy for a "Protestant Army Life Pensioner, not over 45 years of age, to take charge of small furnished front lodge gate at Viscount Charlemont's, wife to open gate and husband to have charge of avenues and walks with man to assist in his work." Will you be kind enough to present my compliments to his lordship and say that, in my opinion, he displays a correct judgment in desiring a life pensioner for this job, for otherwise the wage offered, £14 per year per pair, would assuredly be insufficient to prevent his demise. It is true his lordship offers, in addition, "three tons of coal and milk," but a man cannot live by coal alone. Dietetic experts assure me that he is not in much better case even if he washes it down by milk, and sooner or later, probably, he would be reduced to eating the furniture and the lodge gate. It is also thoughtful of his lordsh. to stipulate that applicants must have no family, as it is evident that a man who had a large family and no life pension would be in a perilous position should he be awarded the situation as a recognition of his merits. Hoping his lordship eats well,

John Bull.

To Mr. Frank Salisbury, Tobacconist, Bedford.

Dear Frank,—I am sorry to see that the Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Bedford, has found it necessary to rebuke you for the ear-splitting strength of your singing. You admit that you are possessed of a loud voice, but your claim that it is a natural one does not, in my opinion, wipe out your offence. Apparently you belong to that noisy section of humanity which was in the poet's mind when he wrote:—

> "Man was never meant to sing:
> And all his mimic organs e'er expressed
> Was but an imitative howl at best."

Remember in future that the congregation of Holy Trinity do not attend church for the purpose of hearing you bring down bits of plaster from the roof, but, ostensibly, to worship—which I should judge to be impossible what time you are working your *vox humana* at full blast. From this time forward follow the example of Bottom the weaver, and make it your business to roar as gently as a sucking dove.

John Bull.

To Shukri Pasha, Turkish Army, Adrianople.

Dear Commander,—You have won the admiration of the world by your gallant stand at Adrianople in the face of overwhelming odds. You have done all that courage and daring could do, and there is no shadow of disgrace in your defeat. I cannot pretend to be sorry that the end has come. Your citadel was foredoomed from the outset, and only your conspicuous bravery has kept the invader so long at bay.

Whatever may be the outcome of the present struggle, you have played your part, and to-day you are hailed in every land as one of the world's brave men.

John Bull.

To Handel Booth, Esq., M.P., House of Commons.

My Dear Booth,—I observe that you have once more been instrumental in saving the Government from defeat—by "talking in a House." Combined with your Friday afternoon "independence," this Party loyalty is interesting. What are you after?

John Bull.

Charles Locke, Police Court Missionary, Highgate.

Congratulate you on authority to teach local policeman boxing. Congratulate them also. Understand you are a thorough Christian in your upper cut.

Bull.

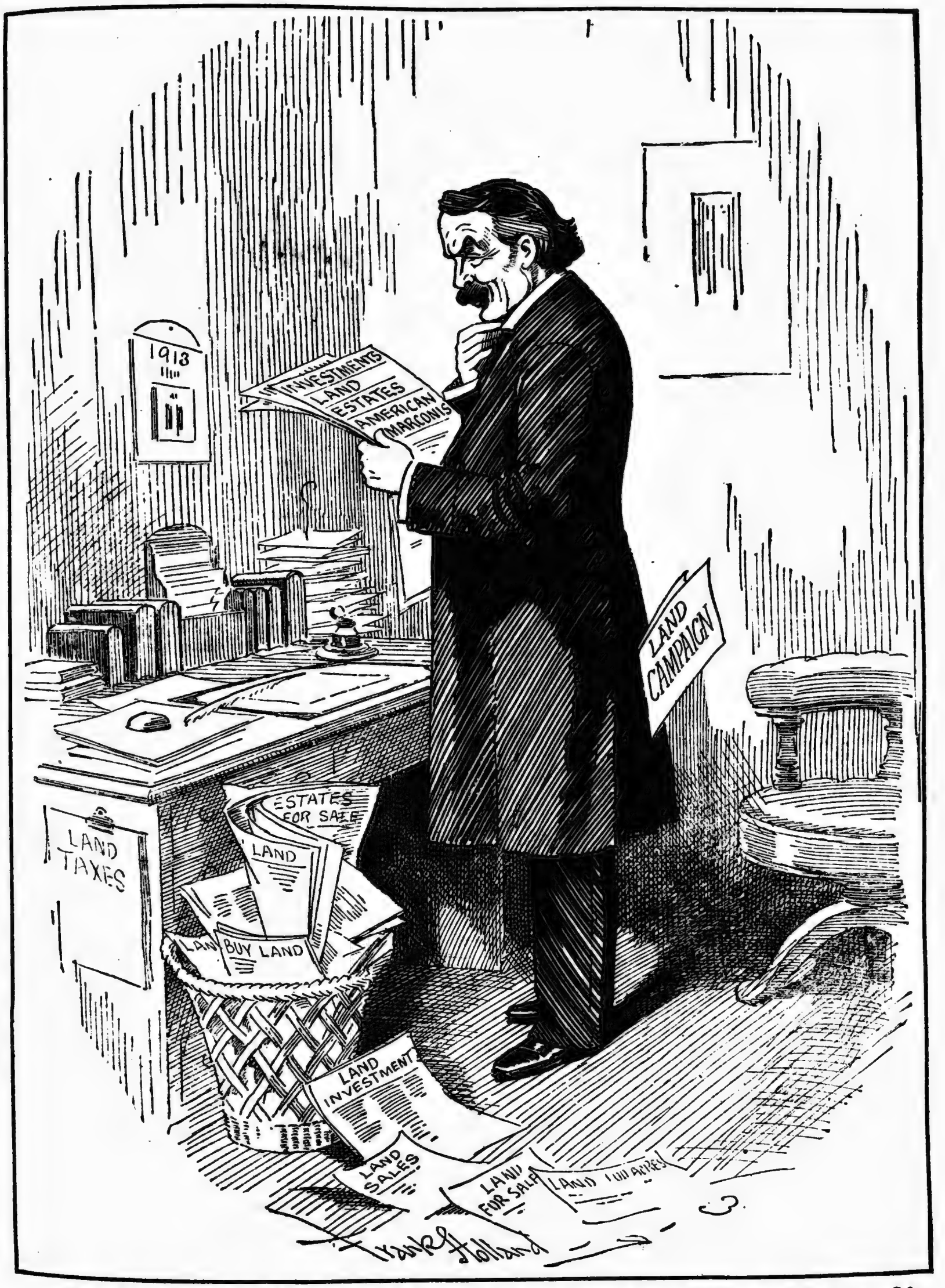
Lord Willoughby de Broke, House of Lords.

Success your new Unionist League in so far as carries out your intention "not blindly follow Party caucus." John Bull League much more useful, however.

Bull

"Mary Bull"—A Splendid Number this week. On Sale Friday. Have it delivered regularly.

THE CHANCELLOR'S CHOICE.



MR. LLOYD GEORGE: "Now, what I want is a sound, permanent investment. Of course, there's land, but that's too risky in these days; I'll go in for Marconis—but they must be American!"

DRAMATIC CHALLENGE TO SIR PERCY SCOTT.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE LEAGUE'S PORTSMOUTH MEETING.

By Walter Moore.

I was first of all struck by the large proportion of service men present, sailors naturally preponderating. The next outstanding feature of the multitudinous gathering was the high order of intelligence it represented, wherein it differed strikingly from the average party-political meeting.

The President's reception was a magnificent one. Commencing in his inimitable, placid fashion, Mr. Bottomley passed all the Departments of State under review, ridiculing their comical anachronisms.

The general expectation that during the evening Mr. Bottomley would deal with what one may fairly call the Beresford-Scott-Bottomley incident was not to be disappointed, for the President next proceeded to give an account of his intervention in the quarrel between the two Admirals. An intense hush fell upon the great audience as Mr. Bottomley, with even more than his usual distinctness and emphasis, explained how he came to have knowledge of the vile treachery practised by Sir Percy Scott against his chief. He related how, after much anxious thought and consideration, he came to the conclusion that it was his duty to lay the facts that had come to his knowledge before the generous-hearted sailor in whom Portsmouth is honoured in the House of Commons, and how he only consented to hold his hand and refrain from making public those facts out of consideration for the wishes of Lord Charles himself.

King and "Belted Knight."

But when the name of Vice-Admiral Percy Scott appeared in the New Year honours list, it seemed to him time that the true character of the recipient of His Majesty's favour should be exposed to the world. Through the medium of John Bull this was done, and the public learned to their amazement that it was possible for an Admiral of His Majesty's Navy to be also a coward and a sneak, capable of conspiring against the professional reputation of his chief, and willing to sow seeds of dissatisfaction and insubordination amongst the lower-deck ratings of the Channel Fleet. Once more Mr. Bottomley formulated his charge against Sir Percy, and in no mincing fashion. "I charge Sir Percy Scott with having personally instigated Press attacks upon his senior officer, Lord Charles Beresford," declared Mr. Bottomley. "I charge him with having, through his Flag Lieutenant and a lady friend, actually supplied much of the material for hostile newspaper articles. I charge him with having personally distributed throughout the Navy large numbers of copies of newspapers containing such attacks. I charge him with having actually distributed and exhibited on various ships of the Navy, contents bills containing derogatory matter respecting Lord Charles." Between each damning charge Mr. Bottomley paused for a moment to let his words sink into the minds of his audience, who seemed to sit spellbound and oppressed by the tremendous character of the indictment of which they were being made witnesses.

A Cowardly Subterfuge.

"Why does not Sir Percy Scott defend himself against these charges," demanded the speaker. "If he is guiltless why does he not claim the protection that the law affords? I hear that he has stated that I am not worth powder and shot. Be that as it may, *I am at any rate worth putting in prison*, and if the charges I have brought are false, *I deserve to be there*. If, on the other hand, they are true, as I know them to be, Sir Percy Scott has been guilty of conduct which in another age would have brought him to the block." Speaking amidst ringing cheers Mr. Bottomley once more flung down his challenge to the man whose conduct has brought disgrace upon the Navy. "I challenge Sir Percy Scott to take action for criminal libel against me," he said, to the accompaniment of a roar of applause, to which the Naval element in the audience mainly contributed. It was a dramatic and a thrilling moment, and the four thousand before whom the President bore witness obviously felt the power of it.

Mr. Bottomley ended on a lofty note, appealing forcibly to the innate patriotism of the people, to the end that the Augean stable of "Party" may be cleared out.

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

A NAVAL "HOLIDAY."

Non-Conformist Minister: I see you are reading the *Daily Mail*, friend. What does it say in regard to Mr. Churchill's suggestion that England and Germany should both refrain from building battleships during the year 1914?

Rivetter: 'Ave a look fur yerself, guv-ner. I've done.

N.-C. Minister: Thank you, I won't trouble. But what is your own opinion?

Rivetter: Blinkin' rot! *Thet's* my opinion of it.

N.-C. Minister: Dear me! You speak very strongly, friend. Do you not realise the awful sinfulness of building mighty battleships costing millions of money, for the purpose of murdering your fellow-creatures?

Rivetter: You've got 'old of the wrong end, guv'ner. They ain't built fur that. They're built ter *prerteck* our fellow countrymen an' their wives an' children from bein' starved or slaughtered by the blinkin' Germans. *Thet's* wot they're built fur. Not fur slaughterin', as you calls it. And they're cheap at the price.

N.-C. Minister: But our German friends might use the same argument against ourselves. What about that, friend?

Rivetter: They might. Thet's jest abart wot they would do, bein' a lot of blinkin' liars.

N.-C. Minister: But they've got as much right to build *Dreadnoughts* as we have, friend. Remember that.

Rivetter: P'raps they 'ave. But they ain't got the same *reason*. They don't get pretty near orl their food from abroad, like wot we do, and they ain't got colonies orl over the world ter prerteck like wot we 'ave.

N.-C. Minister: But you forget that the Germans are Christians, and consequently would not dream of making an unprovoked attack upon another nation of Christians.

Rivetter: Get art! 'Aven't you read no 'istry? W'y, nearly orl the fightin' in the larst tharsand years 'as bin done by Christians. Wot erbart Austria an' Italy? Wot erbart France and Germany? Wot erbart 'Olland an' Spain?

N.-C. Minister: True, true, friend. But—er—perhaps there was provocation to justify those wars. You must remember that.

Rivetter: Come orf it! Wouldn't stoppin' our food serply justify *hus* smashin' up Germany?

N.-C. Minister: But I am sure our dear Christian German friends would never *dream* of doing such a wicked thing. Oh, no!

Rivetter: Wot? Wot erbart wot William ses erbart the Gawd o' battles bein' on the side of the Germans, and orl thet?

N.-C. Minister: Yes, yes; he certainly is given to extravagant speech, scarcely befitting the monarch of a Christian people. But there is also the money question. Do you not think it terrible that millions of money should be squandered year after year in building instruments of slaughter?

Rivetter: Not w'ile seventy-five per cent. of it goes in wages. You stop buildin' warships an' see wot'll 'appen. I should soon lose my job fur a stawt. I'm a rivetter by trade. An' the more ships wots built the better it is fur me.

N.-C. Minister: But there is the Unemployed Insurance for you to fall back upon now, friend. Remember that.

Rivetter: I don't want no unemployed inshorance. I want steady work an' good wages. An' ser long as *Dreadnoughts* is bein' built I can git it.

N.-C. Minister: Dear me; that is an aspect of the question that had never presented itself to me.

Rivetter: I don't suppose it 'as, guv'ner. I dessay you're too busy psalm smitin' an' Bible punchin' ter think o' little things like thet. But you can take it from me, it's kerreck. Buildin' *Dreadnoughts* ain't no burden on the workin' man, no more than buildin' railways wos. I'm orf to Chatham on a job nar wot I wouldn't 'ave if there wos a "Naval 'Ollerdye."

N.-C. Minister: Dear me! But I believe this is my destination. Good day, friend, good day!

Rivetter (*under his breath*): Ignerant 'umbug!

Our Foo ball Pension Won. See page 477.

THE DERBY SWEEPSTAKES BOOM.

A VISIT TO MR. PATRICK O'BRIEN, GENEVA.

Everybody is talking about the John Bull Derby Sweep—with its £10,000 in guaranteed prizes, its £1,000 for Charities, and its popularly-priced shares of 2s. 6d. each—with books of nine tickets for £1. And since we have guaranteed its *bona fides*, we decided to pay a visit to the Manager and Organiser in Geneva.

We have already explained that one of the motives which prompted us to associate ourselves with the project was to defeat the cunningly-laid schemes of the army of rogues who have for some time past infested various Continental cities, from which places they have flooded this country with specious circulars inviting subscriptions to bogus sweepstakes, with fictitious prize-winners. The names of respectable sporting firms have been imitated, and high-sounding titles of imaginary "Clubs" have been adopted—and in more than one case, even, the name of this journal has been most improperly used. It was this state of things which led us, in the autumn of last year, to make a special investigation into the whole subject—with the result that we were unable to recommend more than half-a-dozen firms. But the new rule in connection with the Calcutta Turf Club Derby Sweep, to the effect that the sale of tickets is in future to be confined to members of the club, gave a sudden impetus to the enterprising fraternity to whom we have referred, and who, realising the universal interest in our great racing festival associated with the "Derby," at once became busy with their plans for exploiting the British public in connection with the approaching celebration. But they reckoned without their host—and absolute dismay was spread amongst them when it became known that, with the hall-mark of this journal, a great popular Derby Sweep was to be inaugurated.

Interview with Mr. O'Brien.

It was in the above circumstances that, a few days ago, we found ourselves in the offices of the John Bull Derby Sweep—situated in the heart of the banking quarter of Geneva. We discovered a veritable beehive at work—but all was order and organisation. Division A dealt with the general publicity department; Division B was concerned with enquiries for particulars and the distribution of books of tickets to applicants from all parts of the world; Division C was engaged in acknowledging remittances and forwarding tickets to the purchasers; Division D was occupied in the registration of the numbers for inclusion in the Draw. Then there was a General Correspondence Department, with skilled shorthand writers and typists hard at work; a Banking Branch, in which every postal order and cheque, with its corresponding ticket, is recorded and verified; and various subsidiary sections.

"And how are the tickets selling?" we inquired.

"Well," replied the Manager," "it is early days, but we are inundated with applications for books of tickets, which will, doubtless, be returned in due course, with the counterfoils filled up with the names of the holders. Naturally the expenses for the first year are very heavy, but I have no doubt from all appearances that we shall well cover them. Indeed, it is quite possible that we may announce a substantial addition to the Prizes, whilst I am satisfied that as time goes on we shall rival the Calcutta Sweep itself. John Bull is a great name to work with, and the world-wide character of its influence is a revelation to us all."

"And what are the arrangements for the Draw?"

"As regards that," came the prompt reply, "we leave it all to you and the Committee. We are inviting the Mayor, the Head of Police, and a representative of the Swiss Home Office to be present, and you are, of course, at liberty to bring anyone you like. Before the Draw is made, we shall hand you a list containing the number of every ticket sold, the receipt of the Bank for the full amount of the Prize Money, the £1,000 for English charities—and that will finish our part."

And here came an interesting incident. "Perhaps," we ventured to suggest, "we ought to give some of the £1,000 to the Geneva poor?"

The Manager smiled, as he replied—"*There are none.*"

Oh, for a Business Government!

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Miss MARIE NOVELLO, the brilliant pianiste, writes:—"I find Phosferine wonderfully strengthening and sustaining, and only by its aid am I able to w thstand the great nervous strain which my professional work necessarily entails. Sleeplessness, neuralgia, and loss of appetite have been completely removed, and it gives me a reserve of nervous energy that enables me to meet with confidence the most exacting calls upon my strength. I find there is no better protection than Phosferine against those nerve disorders wh:ch mar one's appearance."—39, Portsdown Road, Maida Vale, London.

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SAD STORIES.

By Leopold Spero.

The Stranger had insisted on seeing the Millionaire, and the Millionaire was Annoyed About it. "Didn't they Tell you I was engaged?" he asked. "And anyway, I don't know you. I never see Anybody I don't know. It isn't Business." The Apparition Smiled. "Look Here," said the Millionaire, "You're in Luck this Morning. It isn't often I feel too Seedy to Administer the Grand Order of the Boot. Why, I threw a Marquis out only yesterday. It's true he was an Irish Marquis. . . . Why don't you Go? Can't you See that You're Annoying me? It's evident you're No Gentleman, or you would Never Outstay your welcome. . . . Come, now," said the Millionaire, "Be a Good Sort and Clear Out. I don't want to send for Blowulf the Butler. He's a Rough Kind of Chap, and there would be a Scene. I Hate Scenes. . . . Do you Want me to Send for Blowulf?" said the Millionaire, pettishly; "Because I shall. And there's Ffoullk the Footman, too. You Won't Like Ffoullk. I'm Sure you Won't. He's a Nasty Fellow. . . . This is the Last of it," said the Millionaire. "Your Society has become Oppressive to me. You've got to Go, or I'll bring an Action against you for Obstropulous Inertia. What's your name?" "My Name," said the Stranger, "is Influenza; and I've Come to Stay."

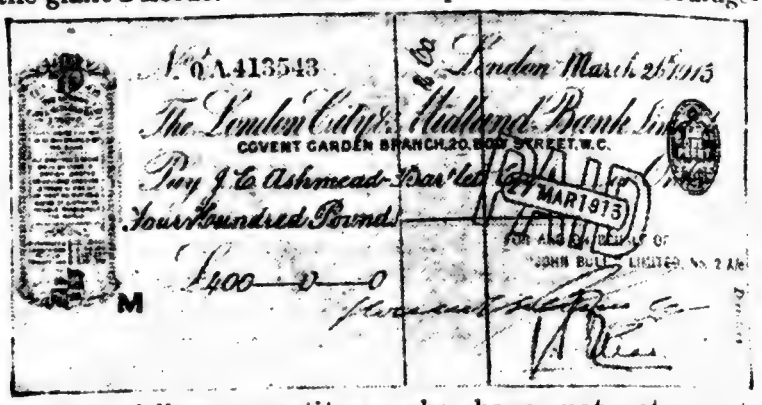
* * *

A Poor Female, having Smashed the Window of a High-Class Confectioner with Malice aforethought and a Brickbat, was yanked by Authority to the Presence of the Law. "Why have you Done this Thing?" asked the Magistrate, passing a Sleek Hand across the Resting Place of a Recent Lunch. The Felon, with much Contrition, was heard to Venture the Opinion that She might have been Hungry at the time. "Hungry!" cried Shallow, "Hungry!! How could you be Hungry only an Hour after Luncheon? Fifteen Shillings or a Month." Which proves Conclusively that it is both Wise and Logical to be well Fed.

OUR 23RD "BULLETS" WINNER.

THE "LONG LADDER" MOUNTED AT LAST.

Appropriately enough, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlet, of 1, Kempson Road, Fulham, evolved as the completion of the example "So long" the phrase "Ladder of Success," thus securing the first prize of £400. For, though he had for years taken part in the competitions of other papers, this is the first prize he has ever won. The handsome sum, however, fully makes up for all his previous disappointments, his feelings doubtless approaching those of that other climber, the nursery hero Jack, upon his obtaining the giant's horde. He cites his experience as an encouragement to fellow-competitors who have not yet won to persevere in their efforts—provided, of course, they are participating in a competition which is carefully judged, as is "Bullets." By the way, it is interesting to learn that the real surname of the man who now stands on the top rung of the ladder is "Ashmead," but, having been known a good deal as "Ashmead-Bartlet," and "thinking that the change of name might mean a change of luck," he made use of the "double-barrel" when firing his "Bullet." Mr. Ashmead-Bartlet is only 25 years of age.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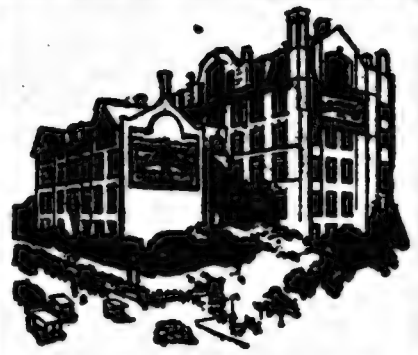

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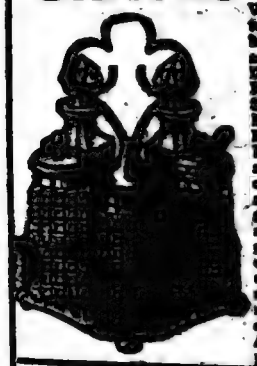

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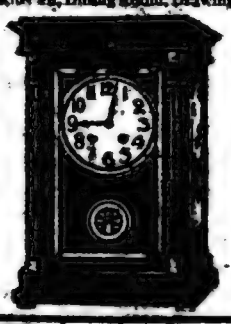

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John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag,"* AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 504.
For Sporting Replies, see page 508.

The Editor returns thanks for many greetings received from readers in connection with his birthday, March 23rd.

"ESSEX," M. G., "ASK PAPA," and many others, are anxious to know what we are going to do about that millionth copy They must wait and see!

"NEMO" (N. Kensington).—We know no reason why the Country Order Departments of big Stores should not come under the provisions of the Shops Act. It is no use writing to the Home Office. Drop a line to the local authority in whose jurisdiction the place is situate.

"MONKS ROAD READER" (Lincoln).—Our publishers would like you to send them the name and address of your newsagent. You can always buy *Mary Bull* at any live newsagency, or at the railway bookstalls.

F. J. S. (Birmingham).—You will readily understand that if we were to take up the cudgels on behalf of every employee who writes us complaining of his treatment, we should have room for little else. We confine our exposures to matters of general public interest, and your complaint does not come under this heading.

W. L. C. (Wellingborough).—Obviously, the more copies of JOHN BULL you buy the better chance you have of getting a winning number. But there is no certainty in either case—and in any event you would have to earn the money.

"DEWDROP" (Penge).—Glad to receive your explanation. Most Slate Clubs lose heavily through dishonest malingerers, and we trust you will succeed in exterminating them. Under your vigilant supervision, your club should continue to increase and prosper.

W. H. C. (Liskeard).—We congratulate you on the anagram you have invented on our name, but we congratulate you more on the charitable spirit that prompted you to send 1s. to our Human Document fund. On behalf of the beneficiary, we also thank you.

A. J. S. (Fort William, Ontario).—We have already announced that we are thinking out a competition in which our Colonial readers may participate.

"BRUM." (Birmingham).—We have not forgotten that Brownhill absconded after receiving a summons to appear at the Police Court, and, as you say, this fact doubtless weighed with the jury; but many an innocent man has lost his head when confronted with an absolutely unfounded charge. This, by the way, is one of the weaknesses of human nature upon which blackmailers trade.

"RONYAR" (Surrey).—We know nothing about Messrs. Raynor and Co., Patent Agents, of 37, Chancery Lane, E.C.

A. E. B. H. E. (Brighton).—Our opinion of the Welsh Disestablishment Bill is, that it is a Party measure designed to make Party use of religious prejudices. It is necessary to the continued existence of the Government that the Welsh Nonconformist members should be placated. As regards the religious purpose of the measure—poof!

"REGULAR READER" (Buluwayo) asks our opinion as to what will happen to Rhodesia when the Charter expires next year. That depends entirely on what Party is in power at the time. There's a pointed lesson in "Party" government for you!

I. W. C. (London, W.C.).—You are but one of quite a number of kind readers who have written to inform us that the words "God damn the Sultan" were used by the late Dr. Joseph Parker, at the City Temple. And we daresay there are people who would say that the curse has taken effect.

"AN INMATE" (Dartford).—We shall certainly have to keep our eye on the Dartford Union, seeing that the ratepayers are afraid, or disinclined, to do so.

A. P. (Brighton).—Managers of French hotels don't want English waiters, as a rule, unless they speak French fluently. We know of no employment agency to which you could apply. You had better wait till the summer and take a trip to Boulogne.

W. S. (Cardiff).—The Plimsoll line was raised by Lloyd George soon after he became President of the Board of Trade.

"READER TO A CINDER" (Bath).—We are afraid your arithmetic is a little rocky. 16 to 10 represents a 60 per cent. margin of superiority. We do not say it is enough.

"HOLLY" (Bethnal Green).—We cannot find that the Sanitary Training College you mention is one of the institutions whose Certificate of Instruction is recognised by the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board. To make sure before parting with your money, write to the Hon. Sec., 1, Adelaide Buildings, London Bridge, E.C.

J. W. L. (Edgware Road) relates how his little daughter, aged three, was saved from almost certain death through the pluck and presence of mind of a Mr. Holderness, confectioner, of Edgware Road, who caught the child as she fell from a second-story window—a distance of about 40 feet. We think this courageous feat should be put on record, for, considering that the child weighs three stone, it must have been no light matter for Mr. Holderness to holder.

F. A. E. (Grimsby).—You talk at large and at great length about the scandal you have found out in relation to the asylum you mention, but you do not say what the scandal is. Why don't you "cut the cackle and get to the 'osses"?

"A YEARLY PASSENGER" (Egypt).—We have already denounced the Interim Report issued by the Board of Trade Departmental Committee appointed to consider the question of lifeboats in liners, etc. But we fear it will need another *Titanic* disaster to impress upon the authorities the need for more drastic regulations.

"COY" (Essex).—You are a little too coy. Without your name and address we can do nothing in the matter you write us so excitedly about.

A. R. L. (Bournemouth) is of the opinion that it would be better if the Bournemouth Councillors "spent more time on the sanitation of the town instead of squabbling over Sunday trams." It appears that Bournemouth breezes are not always balmy, whatever may be said of the local authorities.

H. E. T. (Chesterfield).—We would have nothing to do with John Epps and his "Anti-Rheumatic Pearls." You should have enquired of us before paying your money.

G. G. (Westminster).—We cannot understand what anybody wants to emigrate to Buenos Aires for. The last people we should care to mix with or work for would be South American "greasers."

G. K. (Peterborough).—You tell us you returned home to Peterborough from London suffering from a severe nervous breakdown, and that you entered the workhouse infirmary for treatment, with 6s. 9d. in your pocket, 5s. of which was held by the officials, who handed you a receipt for the amount. Upon your discharge, cured, you obtained employment, and asked for your 5s. back. This was refused, on the ground that you had eaten it; and as you had obtained work we think the decision was quite right. Are you aware that the ratepayers of Peterborough have to pay heavily for the up-keep of the workhouse infirmary? You do not begrudge them the five bob after being cured at their expense, do you?

T. B. (Custom House) would like to know what amount of money the London Liberal morning papers and the London Unionist morning papers, respectively, have had to pay during the last 10 years in damages for political libels. We decline to give the required information, lest we ourselves should be had up for libel.

A. K. (Bristol) writes to tell us, amongst other things, that the earth is not a globe. Is it an orange—or is the correct answer, a lemon?

Your Last Chance to Win £7 a week for Life and £1,250. Final Coupon this week.

"NOTTINGHAM."—Lord Henry Bentinck is a real live lord. That is why he is called one.

MARY G. W. (Weston-on-Trent).—You will find replies to medical inquiries in the correspondence columns of *Mary Bull*. We note you have some mottoes for crackers. For heaven's sake don't send them to us. We cannot understand your other questions.

S. Y. (Willesden, N.W.).—The National Amalgamated Approved Insurance Society, of Euston Road, N.W., may legally require their clerks to work on Sundays, and would be within their rights in discharging an employee who declined to work s ven days a week. But surely they would not be such unmitigated asses as to make so unreasonable a demand upon their staff?

S. P. (Luton), who is very free with the red ink, writes: "Having been a Long Reader I thought it my Duty to write and tell you I have sat and made a little Verse up Myself it Runs Thus:—

John Bull Paper and Competitions are the Best
Having by now be put to the Test
Theirfore the People do not Stop To quest
The reason why John Bull looks after the People the Best."

Some of our "Long Readers" have a very queer idea of "Duty."

E. H. (Coventry).—The Psycho Success Club is no good, and all sensible people should, speaking figuratively, send the man who runs it to your town.

A. S. R. (Levenshulme).—Everything, with certain limited exceptions, found on the premises, whether belonging to the person distrained upon or not, can be lawfully taken in distress for rent. Unfortunately for you, although your mother was the debtor, your bicycle is not one of the exceptions. You have had your last spin on it.

E. H. R. (Leyton) sends us another serious complaint of the methods of business practised by the "Universal" Electric Co. He declares that a few weeks ago he sent them 3s. for one of their advertised articles, but has received neither the goods nor an acknowledgment, although his last letter of complaint to them was registered. The "Universal" Electric Co. appear to be bright sparks.

P. S. (Cardiff).—As the girl left without giving notice, she is not entitled to wages for the time she worked.

G. T. (East Ham) tells us that "by 1 and 2 Victoria (Chap. C.)," just seventy-five years ago, powers were given for making *spacious* and *convenient* streets in the heart of the City of London, and inquires with obvious impatience when the said streets are to be constructed. *We* know a couple of Broad Streets in the heart of the City, anyway.

M. R. C. (Merton).—Most emphatically we will not give you an appointment to discuss your "mechanical designs for a new perpetual motion machine." Apply for an interview with the chief director of Colney Hatch. You appear to be pretty much like Kipling's drum—"The prophet of the utterly absurd, the patently impossible and vain."

W. C. (Hull) sends us a most appreciative letter, which we have read with very much pleasure. Seeing that he, according to his own statement, is a self-educated working man, we cannot refrain from complimenting him on his mastery of the English language. We are glad to number him amongst our readers.

"UNWANTED" (Birmingham).—Don't worry. The ceremony is perfectly legal and binding, and you were entitled to be married in your father's name, by which you have always been known; but as you are illegitimate you would not be entitled to any of his property unless he made a will in your favour.

T. H. (Nottingham) asks us to tell our readers "to beware of an advertisement for canvassers, in the name of Renwick or Marks." That's all very well—but why? We deal only in facts, not insinuations. Let us have the truth, the whole truth, etc., etc., or for ever hold your peace.

"SEVEN KING'S SYNDICATE" (London).—We quite agree that the delay of the G.P.O. in not putting in your telephone (and many others up and down the country) arouses the suspicion that the Telephone Department has gone to sleep and won't wake up.

S. F. W. (Durham).—If you read your JOHN BULL with proper attention from cover to cover you would have seen that we have already warned our readers to have no truck with the Yankee sharper, Captain Walter Rand, who deals in so-called lucky stones. They have no more intrinsic value than the pebbles on the beach.

"SYMPATHISER" (Doncaster).—From the point of view of the pub, there is no doubt that a Licensing Act which closes it on account of redundancy one month and allows the premises to be opened as a club the month after, is aggravating enough to provoke a breach of the peace.

"IMPROVE THE BREED" (London) says that, if everybody was like him, no one would need to lock their doors at night. We have only got his word for it.

F. C. B. (Holborn) suggests that we "form a society against Hunting as Sport." We are not prepared to go so far as that. Our idea would rather be to form a society against hunting that is *not* sport, such as the carted deer scandal.

MRS. J. (East Ham).—When buying goods on the hire-purchase system, you should be careful to deal only with firms of repute. If the suite for which you were charged £8 8s. is really worth only £3 10s., you were badly "had," but you had no right to sell any part of it, as until you have paid the last instalment it remains the property of the company, and you have rendered yourself liable to a criminal prosecution. You had better complete the payments.

C. N. K. (Darlington).—Your verses are ingenious, but we think we might give the "Rev." Knight, late of Leeds, a rest now. His reputation is sufficiently be-Grimed.

H. A. (Notts).—As the robbery was not through any negligence of yours, you are not liable to make good the money stolen from the gas meter, unless there is some undertaking to that effect in the agreement you have signed. The Nottingham Corporation will no doubt try to "bluff"—most people do in such circumstances—but stand up to them.

V. B. (Wallsend-on-Tyne) tells us that he has recently experienced difficulty not only in obtaining 6d. but also 1s. postal orders in his district, and that consequently he has not been able at times to fire his customary "Bullets." Alas! this is not the first time the British Government has run short of "ammunition."

C. W. E. (Strichley).—If you desire to have your marriage certificate altered, you should communicate with the Registrar of Marriages, Somerset House, London, W.C.

F. A. (London, E.C.).—Thanks for your hint regarding the International Psychic Club, of 82a, Regent Street. We shall have to turn on the searchlight.

F. P. (Bristol).—As you were over 65 years of age when the Insurance Act came into force, you are not entitled to full benefits, but only to such as your society can afford. In such circumstances, why did you join the notorious Prudential?

F. M. S. (Stratford New Town) asks if we will kindly inform her "if it is right and proper for a manageress to search a woman." Far more right and proper than for the manager to do so.

"AGREEMENT" (Balham).—The landlord cannot distrain on the step-daughter's goods for rent owing by the step-father. Was the sale of the furniture to the step-daughter genuine, or a mere device to cheat the landlord? If the latter, the transaction would be set aside by the Court. The penalty for not stamping an agreement is £10.

W. F. (Belfast) sends us a lithographed statement of his grievances against certain North of Ireland solicitors. He should lay his complaint before Sir Edward Carson, who appears to take a special interest in Belfast and its inhabitants.

F. J. D. (Manor Park).—The firm from which you obtained the bicycle on the hire-purchase system is quite respectable. As you are under age you could defend the claim on the ground of infancy, but, in the circumstances, this would not be honourable; in any event your father would be liable, as he guaranteed the payments. Better write to the Registrar of the Court admitting the debt, and offering to pay by such instalments as you can manage.

G. C. (Ireland).—We don't know whether Mrs. Tyler, of Rockingham Road, Uxbridge, has sold her 22s. 6d. Stradivarius yet nor whether she stands a better chance of doing so by advertising the instrument in the *Irish Independent*. If it were "the Harp that once through Tara's Halls," we should have more confidence in her success. We have not yet been able to fix a date for our Dublin meeting. When we do, it will be duly announced.

F. H. (North Kensington).—If you leave the firm without giving the stipulated notice you will be liable for damages for breach of contract. If they dismissed you without notice you would sue them quickly enough. Why should you expect them to let you go "scot free"? What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

MISS S. (Birmingham) concludes with some stirring lines on the Chancellor of the Exchequer as follows:—

Heaven is the place where
Lloyd George should be.

We have frequently heard him consigned to a less temperate clime.

J. W. C. (Scarborough).—Six pounds is about the ordinary solicitor's fee for drawing a deed of gift. We do not think your version that he agreed to do the work for a few shillings would be believed by the court. In any event, he is not bound by a verbal agreement to that effect—such bargains must be in writing. You had better pay and save further costs.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

"Bullets"—the Best-judged Competition—with most Prizes. See page 506.

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation :—

Isn't Mr. McKenna quite the ladies' man?
Do the Suffragettes spell it "Hide" Park now?
Could you live on a pound per day? See page 499.
Is it true that Lloyd George has lost his "balance"?
Has Germany changed her famous toast to "The Night" yet?
When shall we "rise" to the level of other nations in aviation?
Aren't some of the County Cricket Clubs trying some "underhand" bowling out?

* * *

More Rapid Reviews.

The Poodle-Woman.—Goes with a snap.
A Babe in Bohemia.—Deals with a crying evil.
Sir Galahad of the Army.—Uses his lance a lot.
Child of Storm.—Weathered through it somehow.

* * *

New Songs Swiftly Reviewed :—

Little Red Kite.—Fell flat.
Cobbler Jim.—A soleful ballad.
Three Little Birds.—Sounds rather cheep.
The Sunshine in Your Eyes.—Brings tears.
Down in the Forest.—Turned the leaves with pleasure.

* * *

The New Cut: The Panama Canal.

* * *

A girl who wants to be dear to a man must not make herself cheap.

* * *

Gun-metal grey is a fashionable colour. It sounds decidedly "killing."

* * *

"Arson by a Cat," reads a headline. This is not another Suffragette outrage.

* * *

Airship building in Germany has not been a financial success. It made the money fly.

* * *

A patent button for trousers has been invented. We hope it has come to stay.

* * *

"Stolen Fruit" is the title of a new comedietta. We trust there are some plums in it.

* * *

"Down dishes" by cooks on strike is no new idea. Our cook has been doing it for years.

* * *

A "ragtime" hat is the latest. The correct trimming should be a simple ragtime band.

* * *

"Brighter cricket" is promised this season. There seems to be every chance of a "shine."

* * *

A French girl who swallowed a packet of needles now complains of a "stitch" in her side.

* * *

Sir Herbert Tree says a man finds it difficult to live up to his posters. John Bull finds it easy.

* * *

The Colchester Borough ratcatcher has gone on strike, and, consequently, the business is going to the dogs.

* * *

Five stockings filled with cigars were found on a widow charged with smuggling. Her "weeds," of course.

* * *

In Ohio, a Bill has been introduced to place legal limits on women's clothes. They are too limited already, over here.

* * *

A vat of porter burst at a Cork brewery, and a workman had to swim through the liquid. Did he get any "mouthfuls"?

* * *

Too much religion was the excuse of a Chicago minister's wife for eloping with another man. He evidently brought it home to her.

* * *

Mr. Bernard Shaw says civilisation in Bethnal Green has made him hold his nose. We wish it had been his tongue.

* * *

The backs of banknotes are being offered to advertisers in Sweden. Such as accept may be sure that their efforts will not be thrown away.

* * *

At the King's official dinners not more than six or seven courses are served. If you are still hungry you can always fall back on the bread and cheese.

* * *

The Weather Prophet made some funny remarks before the Royal Meteorological Society. And quite right too; our weather is enough to make anybody laugh.

Tomato red is to be the fashionable colour this season. But not in noses.

* * *

"The Decoy Duck," is the name of a new book. It sounds rather misleading

* * *

The actor is the most chivalrous of men; he is always ready to take another's part.

* * *

"Votes for Women" has spread to Russia. We fear that they will get "knout."

* * *

The young man whose celluloid collar caught fire the other day got it "in the neck."

* * *

The dressmaking paradox of the day is that the tighter the skirt, the fuller it seems.

* * *

"Salting Airships' Tails," reads a headline. But it is the "tales" that need the salt.

* * *

Crawling on all fours is an aid to beauty, we are told. A sort of beauty and the beast.

* * *

Marylebone Council has decided not to allow mixed bathing. We must call it "Moralebone."

* * *

Shirts are made in Glasgow at 7d. a dozen. The employers ought to be collared and cuffed.

* * *

At the Simple Life Exhibition an item is a dinner of nuts eaten off the floor. Why not on trees?

* * *

Nothing will prevent a Scotsman leaving Scotland, it is said. He knows he will be better "off."

* * *

"Fewer Games in the Parks," reads a heading. These damp nights do make a difference, no doubt.

* * *

A goose has laid an egg twelve inches in circumference. But we have seen one very near a yard.

* * *

"A girl's heart is like an umbrella," says Walter Pulitzer. Yes, you want it when you haven't got it.

* * *

At a County Council election at Lowestoft only seven persons voted. How popular the candidates must be!

* * *

"The modern woman rarely weeps," says Lady Aberdeen. But she doesn't have a dry time, all the same.

* * *

"To a woman, beauty is the very greatest asset," says Mrs. Barclay. But her own sex won't credit her with it.

* * *

The institution of policewomen is being advocated in New York. But men are more used to looking after girls.

* * *

A new political play, "The Bill," is to be produced. It will probably require "amendments" before it will pass.

* * *

Said the newsagent, "The 'Life of Lloyd George' for a penny; will you take it?" "Willingly," said the Suffragette.

* * *

A wine shop at Pompeii contains a "cash only" notice. The office of the local paper must have been adjacent.

* * *

Picture postcards of the Rev. Albert Knight are being sold in Leeds. He has, of course, a "far-away" expression.

* * *

A young German named Syphen has been rejected by the Immigration Board. There could have been nothing in him.

* * *

The quality of agreeableness is said to separate French from all other literature. There seems to be a "dis" left out somewhere.

* * *

A husband who collected pipes and boots was stated to have allowed his wife only twopence a day for dinner. We can spare a boot.

* * *

Early English Suffragettes.

Evidently there were Suffragettes before Shakespeare. From Nicholas Udall's "Ralph Roister Doister," the first comedy known to be written in English, we extract one line as spoken by Dame Christian Custance, the heroine:—"Ye shall see women's war!" (Act IV., Scene VI.) It reads like a motto for the militant section, the "bold, bad" ones.

Our Football Pension Won. See page 477.

YOUR LAST CHANCE TO WIN—FINAL COUPON.

FOR ALL FORECASTS CORRECT	FOR NEAREST FORECASTS SHORT OF FULL NUMBER	FOR NEXT HIGHEST CORRECT FORECASTS	FOR THE NEAREST LADY COMPETITOR
£7 A WEEK FOR LIFE	£750 CASH (MUST BE WON)	£400 CASH (MUST BE WON)	£100 CASH LADIES' PRIZE (MUST BE WON)

4 DISTINCT PRIZES | £1,250 MUST BE WON!

Our readers are advised that this is the last chance to take advantage of the above world's record offer—a Life Pension of £7 a week and three enormous cash prizes to the value of £1,250 cash. The final coupon appears this week so it is ABSOLUTELY YOUR LAST OPPORTUNITY—send in your entries *now* and get all your friends to enter.

All you have to do is to forecast the Results of the matches to be played on **Saturday, April 12th,** given on the entrance form to be found on the inside of our front cover. Draw your pen through the team you think will lose; if you predict a draw, do not cross out either team.

The £7 a week for Life will be paid to the Competitor sending us an entrance form containing correct forecasts of the matches given, *played to a finish,* EVEN IF THE NUMBER BE ONLY 10 OR 12.

Abandoned Matches make no Difference.

In the event of no entrance form being received giving the whole of the correct results, **£750 in cash** will, *in any event,* be paid to the competitor sending the most correct forecasts short of the full number.

NO GOALS REQUIRED.

£400 in cash, as a further prize, will also be awarded to the sender of the *next* highest number of correct forecasts, and **£100 in cash** will be paid to the *lady* whose coupon gives more correct forecasts than that of any other lady competitor.

Thus even if the £7 a week for life is not won, and we shall be disappointed if it is not, we shall in **any event still award the £750, £400, and the £100.**

You can send in as many entries as you like, and any number may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends can send their entries together in one envelope, but every coupon must be signed by the person making the forecast.

£100 CASH FOR LADIES ONLY.

The RULES and **COUPON** will be found ON THE INSIDE of FRONT COVER.

LADIES' PRIZE.

Ladies are specially invited to enter. They have the same chance as men in winning one of the chief prizes, but in any event £100 will be paid to the lady sending most correct forecasts.

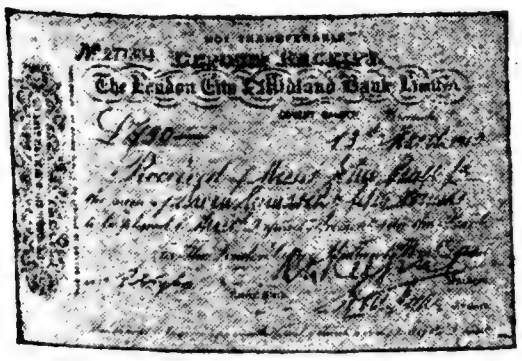
The competition is one of pure skill, and competitors should make a point of studying the football column of the daily papers.

You can send in as many Coupons as you like.

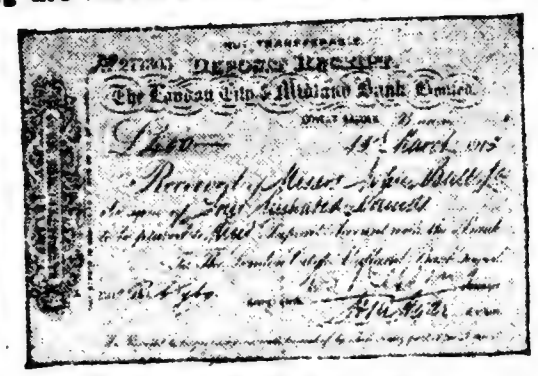
NO ENTRANCE FEES.

THE MONEY IS WAITING AT THE BANK FOR YOU.

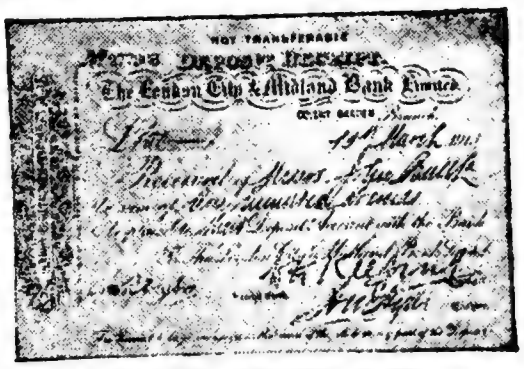
We have deposited with our Bankers the three separate cash sums of £750, £400, and £100. The following are reduced facsimile reproductions of the banker's receipts.



DEPOSIT RECEIPT £750.



DEPOSIT RECEIPT £400.



DEPOSIT RECEIPT £100.

THE BIGGEST THING EVER DONE IN FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 506, where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £450 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other prizes to the value of £1,770.

John Bull League Notes.

(By the General Secretary.)

PORTSMOUTH.—The great meeting held here last week is described on another page by Mr. Walter Moore. It is only necessary to add that Councillor Harold Pink took the Chair, and that his opening address was received with enthusiasm. Mr. Richard Taylor, the Vice-President of the North Eastern Federation, was present, and urged the audience to join the League, whilst Mr. Saxby ably officiated at the organ, and Mr. Wassell rendered the League Songs in splendid style. The general opinion expressed in the town was that this was the most remarkable meeting ever held in the Town Hall.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—All roads lead to the splendid Newcastle Town Hall to-morrow (Friday). During the last few days many hundreds of applications for tickets have been received, so that there are only a few reserved seats left. Stewards are still required for the meeting, and all those who are willing to assist in this direction should call and see me at the Douglass Hotel. The doors of the hall will be thrown open to ticket holders at 7.30 p.m., and at 8 p.m. admission can be obtained to the ordinary seats upon the production of a current copy of this journal, should seating accommodation permit. Reserved seats, price one shilling, can be obtained from the gentlemen whose names and addresses appear on the front page of this issue. The entire proceeds of the sale of these seats is devoted to the funds of the local branch of the League.

BIRMINGHAM.—A public meeting will be held in Gower Street Schools, Lozells, to-night (Thursday), commencing at 8 p.m. This is the first of a series of such meetings that the local executive have fixed up. Will our members and supporters in Birmingham please also be sure and book Thursday, April 17th, as the date upon which the local Branch are holding their annual smoking concert at "Ye Olde Royal Hotel"? A fine programme is assured.

PLYMOUTH.—The local Branch will hold its Annual General Meeting at the Corn Exchange on Monday, April 7th. Mr. B. Turner, of 15, Fellowes Place, Stoke, Devonport, has been appointed Local Secretary in the place of Mr. Hutchings, resigned. Mr. B. Cross, of 27, Alexandra Road, is the Local Treasurer, and desires to remind members who have not yet done so, that they should forward their annual subscriptions to him at once. The executive are organising a petition to the Plymouth Corporation for permission to hold Sunday concerts and cinematograph entertainments. Copies may be obtained from Mr. B. Turner, 15, Fellowes Place, Stoke, and the Manager Andrews' Picture Palace, Union Street, Plymouth.

HULL.—Ordinary and reserved tickets are now available for the President's meeting on April 18th. All applications will receive immediate attention. The City Hall is not half big enough for the crowd which the President is sure to attract. Mr. W. F. Morrissey, of 28, Louis Street, Mr. F. Ward, of 8, Togo Crescent, or Mr. F. W. Sayers, of 38, Chariot Street, will be pleased to supply both reserved seats and unreserved seats on receipt of stamped addressed envelope.

MANCHESTER.—Do not forget the Annual Meeting at the Coal Exchange, Market Street, Manchester, to-night (Thursday). Councillor Ross Clyne will preside, and will deliver an address on matters of topical interest.

BELFAST.—The President's visit has been fixed for the 1st of May, at the historic Ulster Hall, and although this is the first announcement of the date, already many hundreds of applications for tickets have been received. The President is sure to carry Belfast by storm. Mr. D. Williamson, of 13, Lombard Street, Belfast, is the Local Secretary, and he will be pleased to receive applications for tickets and to get in touch with workers with a view to establishing a strong working committee to arrange for the President's visit.

CARDIFF.—The President will again visit the Park Hall, on April 11th. All those who have not yet written for a ticket should do so at once to any of the following gentlemen, enclosing stamped addressed envelope for reply:—Mr. J. Rowles, 2-3, Quay Street; Mr. E. Lloyd, of 35, Merthyr Street, Cathays; Mr. W. E. Escott, of 11, Clyde Street; Mr. R. H. Helps, of 4, Treeforest Road; Mr. A. W. Cardley, "Tremayne," Cowbridge Road, Bridgend; or from Mr. R. W. Webb, of 3, Ceridwen Terrace, Pontypridd, or from the General Secretary 93, Long Acre.

Chats about Beauty.

VALUABLE AND INTERESTING RECIPES CULLED FROM SMART SOURCES.—FACE, HAIR AND EYES.

Home-Made Beauty.

"Cosy-Corner Chats."

The very simplest things are often the most effective in making a woman beautiful. For instance, few people know that a dull or greasy complexion can be instantly brought to a pretty, youthful, natural bloom merely by the application of ordinary cleminite dissolved in water. Moreover, the method cannot be detected even under the closest scrutiny. The result will last all day long and requires no powdering even under the most trying conditions indoors or out. If you have no cleminite in the house get about an ounce from the chemist's and add only enough water to dissolve it. Apply a little to the face. It is good for the skin and immediately produces that cool, velvety, natural "bloom" so much desired. * * * * * * To bring a natural red colour to the lips, rub them with a soft stick of prolactum.

Brushing the Eyelashes.

"Toilette Topics."

Much can be done to train and beautify the eyebrows and lashes by gently stroking them with a soft camel-hair eyebrow brush. There is nothing which so enhances the beauty of the face as fine eyebrows and long, curling, dark lashes. Clipping the lashes to make them grow longer and stronger was long also abandoned as worse than useless, and smart women of to-day will risk no such radical method. Instead, many of them use a perfectly harmless but very rare and delicate substance known to chemists as mennaline. To greatly stimulate and also to darken the growth of the hairs in brow and lash, it may be applied at night with the finger tips close to the hair roots. * * * * * * Rouge is always obvious, but powdered colliandum defies detection and is quite harmless.

"Wavy" Shampoos.

"Homely Hints."

Few people know that stallax can be used as a shampoo, and is far better than anything else for the purpose. It seems to have a natural affinity for the hair, leaving it very glossy, fluffy, and with a pronounced natural "wave." A teaspoonful of stallax granules, dissolved in a cup of hot water, is more than sufficient. Genuine stallax comes to the chemist only in sealed ½lb. tins, a quantity sufficient to make up fifteen or twenty separate shampoos. The indescribable lustre it imparts to the hair is quite inimitable. * * * * * * For an actual hair grower nothing equals pure boraninm. It is quite harmless, and sets the hair roots tingling with new life.

Getting Rid of Female Moustaches.

"Practical Suggestions."

To women who are annoyed by disfiguring downy hair growths a method of permanently eradicating the same will come as a piece of good news. For this purpose pure powdered pheminol may be used. Almost any chemist should be able to supply an ounce of this drug. The recommended treatment is designed not only to remove the disfiguring growth instantly, leaving no trace, but also to actually kill the hair roots without irritating the skin * * * Objectionable body odours resulting from perspiration and other causes may be instantly banished by simply applying a little powdered (white) pergol to the affected surface occasionally. * * * Smart women are rapidly adopting the use of the natural allacite of orange blossoms when the complexion is inclined to be oily. It makes a capital greaseless cream, holds the powder perfectly, and does not encourage hair growths.

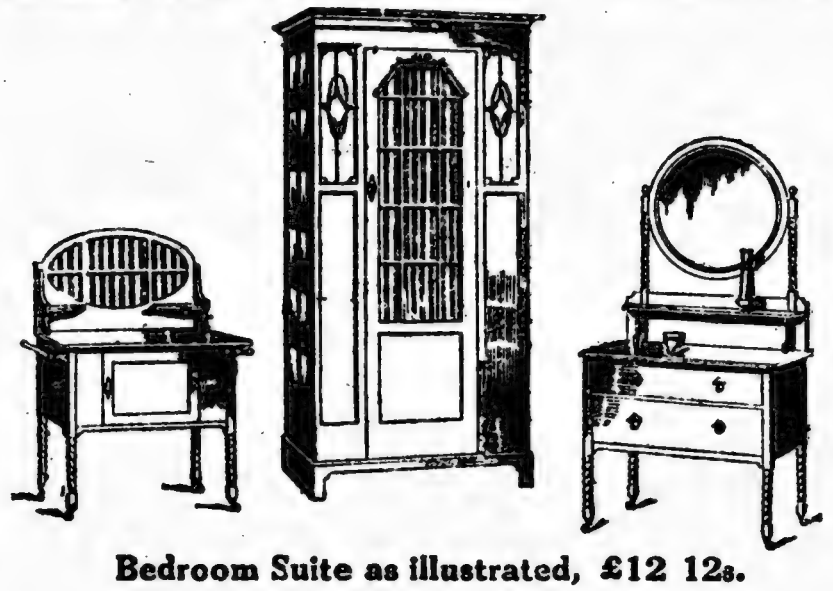
The Flushed Face.

"Health Hints"

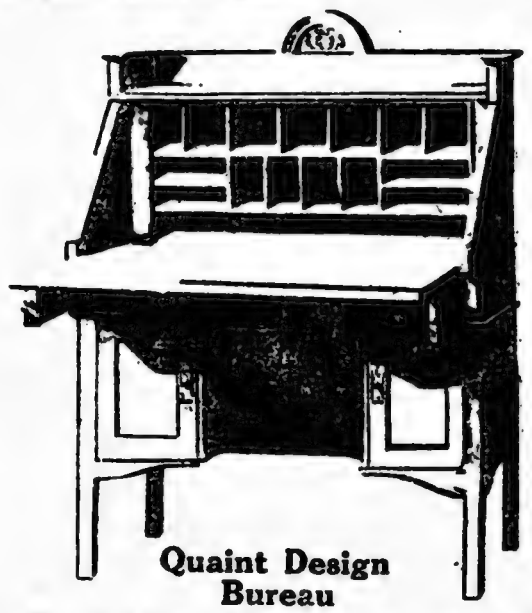
A good many women find that their faces flush after meals. Not only does this make them feel very uncomfortable, but it also does not tend to improve their personal appearances. All my readers who suffer from this trouble should take a good digestive tonic, with pepsine as the basis, with their meals, and make a practice of resting for at least half an hour after meals. They will find that, if this treatment be adopted, it will have a very beneficial effect.

Bargains

Our Furniture is so well-known—so widely bought and so eminently adapted to the latest ideas on furnishing that most people know from actual experience that no furniture ever made can equal ours for honest value—add to this the fact that this self same furniture is at the present moment to be obtained at very finely cut sale prices, and you get the reason why our furniture is just now, more than ever before, the furniture you should select.



Bedroom Suite as illustrated, £12 12s.



Quaint Design Bureau

SALE PRICES and EASY TERMS.

A combination which makes Furnishing during the next few weeks as inexpensive as it is easy. Although everything has been so enormously reduced, we are still offering the many advantages connected with our **GRADUAL PAYMENT POLICY.**

To the Manager, Hackney Furnishing Co., Ltd., London. Peterborough, 8th March, 1913.

Dear Sir,—I now write to acknowledge receipt of furniture I ordered, which arrived here about 1 p.m. on the 5th inst. I must congratulate you on the manner in which the goods were packed; there was only the washstand that received any damage, and that not worth speaking about. Both myself and wife are highly delighted with everything, and some items were far beyond my expectations. When one takes into consideration that I absolutely relied on your choice of all but two items, and then get what satisfies and pleases me, it speaks well for your management and straightforward dealings. I am that satisfied myself that I will recommend your firm without hesitation whenever the chance presents itself to me. You will find enclosed postal order, which please acknowledge. I am returning wrappers (18) by the Great Northern Railway on Monday. Again thanking you for your kind consideration, I am, Sir,

Yours truly, (Signed) R. S.

The original of this and hundreds of other testimonials can be seen at our Oxford Street Offices.

May we send you a copy of our Catalogue?

AN ADDITIONAL DISCOUNT OF 10 PER CENT. FOR CASH.

GENERAL TERMS.

£10	Worth	£0	6	0	per Month
20	,,	0	11	0	,,
30	,,	0	17	0	,,
40	,,	1	5	0	,,
50	,,	1	8	0	,,
100	,,	2	5	0	,,
200	,,	4	10	0	,,
500	,,	11	5	0	,,
1,000	,,	22	10	0	,,

We do not charge interest or require deposit. Country Customers' fares are paid on any order over £30. Every article purchased is very carefully packed and delivered to any required address free of all cost. Any Carpets or Linos bought will be laid free, and schemes for completely furnishing a house in various original and attractive styles will be submitted at your request. £10,000 *of Secondhand Furniture always in stock.*

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1, 2, 3, 4, Town Hall Buildings; 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, The Grove (adjoining), Mare St., Hackney, London.

Telephone: 84 Dalston & 854 North. Telegrams, "Furniments, London."

HOURS OF BUSINESS: Oxford Street—9 till 8; Saturdays 9 till 1 o'clock. Mare Street—9 till 9; Thursdays 9 till 1 o'clock.

CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 504.*]

The Stock Markets.

The rise which has taken place all round the markets would appear to be fully justified by the fact that the war in the Near East is apparently coming to a close. Moreover, money is cheaper, and already three months' bills are discounted at 4⅛ per cent., while we shall shortly have a reduction in the London Bank Rate. American Rails had improved sharply on "Bear" closing in Wall Street, but the news of Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan's serious illness proved very disquieting. No doubt, although the worst has happened, arrangements will have been made to take care of all the holdings, but the dropping out of such a financial giant must leave traces which are bound to react upon the Yankee Market. In the meantime, there have been high jinks in Tintos on their big dividend, and the "Bears" have had to cover at prices rising to 78. The copper position, in fact, is better than it has been for a long time, inasmuch as there is no longer any manipulation, and, according to the annual statistics, the production during the past year of 1,004,485 tons was the largest on record, but consumption has been at an even greater rate than the output, and the estimated consumption during 1912 was 1,024,500 tons, an increase of about 12 per cent. against 1911. A very prominent movement has been in progress in Kaffirs, Diamonds and Rhodesians, all of which have advanced. There may, however, be some slight reactions on profit-taking. Home Rails are on the up-grade, as they ought to be, while Canadian Pacifics, after their recent sharp rise, are hesitating. Amongst Oil shares Ural Caspians have had a sharp recovery, and Shell Transports are very strong. In the metal market Tin is rising, and there is a better demand for Nigerian Tin shares than for some time past. Almost the only weak market is that for rubber and rubber shares, owing to somewhat pessimistic annual statistics, and on fears that there will be too much rubber for present prices to hold.

The Pearl Company's Lament.

The result of the past year's working can hardly, we think, have given the directors unalloyed satisfaction. Although an increase of premium income is reported in the Ordinary and Industrial Branches, the increase in the latter department is not nearly so much as that shown for the previous year. The claims have been heavy, and it would be interesting to know to what extent forfeiture of policies has taken place and the sums received thereunder. We observe the principal reasons assigned by the directors for somewhat retarded progress are strikes and lock-outs and the National Health Insurance. We think we could give an additional reason, and that is the slump in Industrial Assurances owing to the publicity given by us to the dark side of this business, and which operates so seriously to the disadvantage of the poor of the community.

Recent Canadian Issues.

A glance at the present quotations—where any exist—for the stock of recent Canadian issues will emphasise the wisdom of the advice which we have consistently given our readers to give all such investments a miss. There is scarcely one that does not show a loss, and the wonder is that the financial houses still have the temerity to flood the market with them. We suppose, however, it is part of the game—to stick the underwriters with the stock at a cheap price with a view to their foisting it off upon the public in boom times. And there are many influences at work to create a Canadian boom. But we shall do our best to expose its hollowness.

The Awakening of the Shareholder.

There are portents on the financial horizon that the hitherto complaisant shareholder is at last waking up. At the Anglo-Continental meeting, just before the holidays, a body of malcontent members put the chairman through his paces, unearthed weird statistics about the directorships of some of his colleagues, and generally played "the very deuce." At the Panama Rubber meeting gloves were literally taken off by both sides, fisticuffs being indulged in, amid cries of "Dirty cads" and "Liars." True, in neither of the instances quoted did the malcontents succeed in enforcing their demands; but, for a trial trip, the innovation appears to have been quite satisfactory. The financial press, by the way, omitted to mention the Panama Rubber *fracas*, although it devoted nearly two columns to a report of the meeting. How *do* these things get kept out of the papers?

Another Important Oil Company.

We hear of an important forthcoming oil Company, which has just acquired producing wells in the State of Oklahoma, U.S.A. The property comprises about 760 acres, of which 450 are freehold, with over eighty fully equipped oil-producing wells, and a present production sufficient to pay a dividend of more than 15 per cent. upon the capital of the Company, which is fixed at £150,000; whilst it is claimed that by the addition of more wells, already located, this revenue can be very materially increased. The whole purchase price is to be payable in *shares or cash*, at the will of the directors of the Company. In 1889 the State of Oklahoma, which is situated in the south-western part of the United States, produced but 500 barrels of oil, this production being annually increased until in 1912 it amounted to 55,073,356 barrels. The average market price for crude oil in this State is now 88 cents a barrel, a barrel containing 42 gallons. We understand that the cost of drilling compares most favourably with that in Galicia and the Maikop districts, being, in fact, as little as £300 to get to the necessary depth, the oil apparently lying in what is termed "shallow pools" over an area of about 140 miles. That the district is a rich one is proved by the fact that the great Standard Oil Company of America has invested in pipe lines, storage tanks and properties over £20,000,000, whilst in such cities as Tulsa, for example, each day at the principal hotel one may find hundreds of oil-purchasing Companies' representatives making bids to the different owners, the scene being not unlike that of a miniature Stock Exchange. Besides oil, the lands of Oklahoma produce natural gas, which is used for lighting, heating and power purposes, and the new Company will acquire a revenue from this source alone sufficient for its power purposes and all the cost of maintenance and labour, so that what it receives for its oil will represent "all profit." We understand that the prospectus of the Company is about to be issued, and it will doubtless be awaited with interest by the investing public.

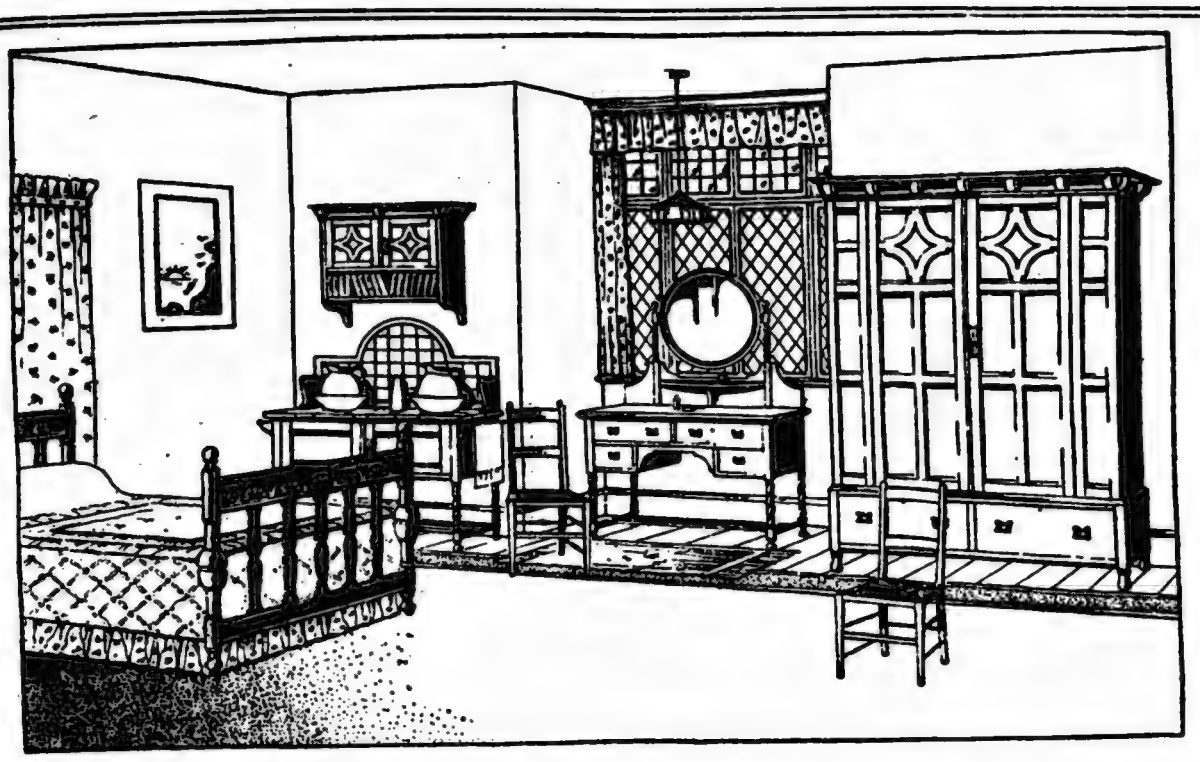
The Insecurity of Colonial Securities.

We have frequently called attention to the dangers run by investors in this country who have been attracted by the many recent new issues—mostly Canadian—made by Companies registered in the Colonies. We have pointed out that they have little or no control over the administration and policy of the undertakings, and in adopting this attitude we have been almost alone. A case in point is the reconstruction of the Chillagoe Company, registered in Queensland, but the bulk of whose shares are held over here. In this case, to which we have already referred, a further reconstruction has been decided upon, and the rights of the English shareholders have been ignored and treated in a most high-handed manner. Notices of meeting for liquidation were issued in February, dated from Melbourne, but obviously printed and posted in London and accompanied by proxies in favour of the directors for some scheme of reconstruction, the details of which were not disclosed. Such proxies were to be lodged at the London office within a few days of their receipt, and the result was that by their aid the directors were able to carry their resolution in the face, we understand, of considerable local opposition. The extent of such support was presumably cabled to Australia and utilised by the Board because it suited them. A very different attitude, however, has been adopted in the case of those shareholders who, recognising their inability to protest against the scheme at the meeting held thousands of miles away, lodged Notices of Dissent. They are coolly informed that the Company declines to recognise the validity of service at their London office, and that the only course they can adopt is to serve such notices upon the liquidator in Australia, which is obviously impossible within the prescribed time. And to rub it in, the London secretary tells them that unless they take up their shares at once they will forfeit all interest in the Company, which according to the valuation of the directors, has very substantial and tangible assets. Truly, an object-lesson which should be taken to heart. We understand that it is intended to test the legality of the action of the Company in refusing to accept the Notices of Dissent, but we have had some law in our time and are not too hopeful of the result.

Consolidated Oil Fields in South Africa.

Do not be surprised if you see a big move in these shares at an early date. We think we know something. "If you see it ——!"

"Bullets"—Over 5,000 Cash and other Prizes weekly, value £1,770. See page 506.



THE above illustration shows a charming Oak Jacobean Style Bedroom specially designed for the prize-winner in a recent competition in *Mrs. Bull.* The suite comprises a roomy wardrobe, 5 ft. wide, with panelled doors, 3 ft. 6 in. dressing chest with circular bevelled mirror, 3 ft. 6 in. washstand with tiled back and marble top, 4 ft. 6 in. × 6 ft. 6 in. oak bedstead with wire mattress, overlay, two pillows and bolster, two chairs, carpet and rug. The whole is thoroughly well made and carefully finished. Price complete, **£29.**

Our showrooms in Southampton Row contain a splendid selection of handsome and carefully made furniture, and a complete series of model furnished flats ranging from £50 to £500. Everything is plainly marked at prices which represent the best value in the whole furnishing trade.

A Complete Furnishing Guide.

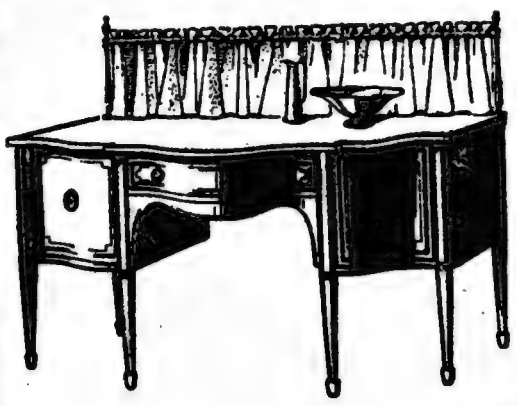
We have prepared a very elaborate complete Guide to the furnishing of the House containing hundreds of illustrations and several coloured plates. A copy will be sent you post free on request.

You can furnish without capital by availing yourself of our Ideal Payment System. No deposit is asked, no interest required, and no extra charges made.

TERMS:

Worth.		Per Month.
£10	..	£0 6 0
£20	..	0 11 0
£30	..	0 17 0
£40	..	1 5 0
£ 0	..	1 8 0
£100	..	2 5 0
£ 00	..	4 10 0

Larger Amounts pro rata.
10% discount for Cash.
No Charge for Credit.



Railway Fares Paid.

Country Customers' fares to town paid on all orders of £20 and over. Country orders packed and delivered free.

Our SECOND-HAND DEPARTMENT alone contains a stock valued at considerably over £10,000. A special catalogue is issued weekly, which we shall be pleased to forward post free on application.

Reproduction of Sheraton Sideboard in Mahogany, inlaid with satinwood. Fitted with antique pattern brass rail, and silk curtain. 4ft. wide. Price £8 18 6.

Midland

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15 to 23 Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

Hours—9 till 8. Sats.—9 till 1.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, John Bull, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa.—H. B. R. (Havant).—We are obliged for your letter and have forwarded certain particulars which will doubtless be of interest to you, and from which you will see that several eminent experts have expressed very favourable opinions on the subject of finding oil in payable quantities. We would also point out that in the Ceres district there are important indications of the presence of petroleum other than the iridescent film, more especially the occurrence of natural gas in a pronounced degree. In addition, the geological formation of the district is favourable to the accumulation of oil in payable quantities. Apart altogether from this, the fact that an expert of the standing of Mr. Mills-Davies should recommend the sinking of wells, especially in the face of the hostile criticism which has been directed against the scheme of the Company in some quarters, when it would have been so much easier for him to have stated that he did not advise the expenditure of the money which the sinking of wells would entail, is very significant.

Homes Investment of Canada.—W. D. (Manor Park).—We do not advise the investment, and another time make your enquiries *before* giving cheques.

Inter-Mountain Metal Mining Co.—Thowlpin.—We strongly advise you not to put any money into this or other American mining concerns of the same calibre. The shares are not marketable here, and the prospects are more than dubious. If you want to put money into Mines, you can find plenty of scope in Kaffirs, Rhodesians, etc.

Aporama Goldfields.—M. W. (Fulham).—This concern has been very disappointing, and it is quite a toss-up whether it will retrieve its position. After the heavy fall, however, it might be worth while holding a little longer.

Petrol Users' and Traders' Supply Society.—Spirit.—We believe there are some grounds for your misgivings, but, having applied for the shares, we are afraid that you will be compelled to pay up the calls, whether you like it or not. It is a pity that you did not make your inquiries first.

South Manchurian Bonds.—Slimplicitas.—A fair second-class holding. The principal and interest on the 5 per cent. Bonds are payable in London at the Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd., 7, Bishopsgate Street, on February 5 and August 5; on the 4½ per cent. Bonds, also at the Yokohama Specie Bank, but on January 1 and July 1.

Sorocabana Railway.—G. C. R. (Theale).—These Bonds are a good second-class holding, and they are quoted regularly in the Stock Exchange Official List, so that they have a fairly free market. The line forms part of the Brazil Railway system, and is worked by this Company. The Bonds are secured by Trust Deed as a first specific charge on the line. The interest is payable in London, at the Bank of Scotland, on April 1 and October 1, so that it is not correct that a dividend was due on March 1.

Atherfield Rubber Estates.—Atherfield.—Unless you can actually prove misrepresentation, and can get other shareholders to join you, we are afraid you have no option but to pay the calls, even if you forfeit the shares. The latter step does not relieve you of your liability.

Premium Bonds.—D. P. E. (Swansea).—We feel sure that Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., 10, Place de la Bourse, Paris, who are probably the largest dealers in these Bonds, would be happy to give you the information for which you ask.——H M. M. (Transvaal).—Your best plan is to place yourself in communication with Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., who will doubtless arrange to keep you informed as to future drawings, etc.

Galician Oil Lands and Royalties Trust.—Constant Reader.—We certainly think that the undertaking has good prospects of success. It has no connection with the other Company you mention.

Systematic Investment Co.—Transvaal.—We have frequently warned our readers against having any transactions with this bucket shop. The shares are only quoted at a few pence each, and we regard them as rubbish.

Standard Life Assurance Co.—T. T. (Richmond).—You have omitted to give the age at entry, but assuming the age next birthday to be 25, and a whole life policy for £100 having been in force for 15 years and then surrendered, the cash value obtainable, excluding bonuses, is £55 16s. The cash value of bonuses allowed by the company is approximately 90 per cent. of what is known as Hm. 3½ per cent. Table of Calculations, and based on age 70 having been attained, the cash payment granted for each £1 of the reversionary bonus declared would be the sum of 14s. 11d. We trust this information will enable you to decide whether the £60 4s. you have received, against premium payments of £113 9s. 4d., exclusive of the £20 paid as extra premiums for residence in India, is fair and equitable.

National Health Insurance.—Stamp.—Undoubtedly insurance agents are the mainstay of this great national conundrum. Without their aid the working of the Act, with all its varied requirements and complications, will have become impossible. It is only right, therefore, that their services should be fairly recognised, and any payments due to them promptly made. We agree that your complaint would appear to be well founded, but you must not look for speedy reforms until the advent of a Business Government.

London and Manchester Industrial Assurance Co.—X. Y. Z. (Leytonstone).—The attempt to deprive you of Medical Aid Benefit, after paying for sixteen years, is contemptible, and it is indeed pathetic that having attained the age of 69 years you should be harassed and worried over a matter of this sort. It is not the only complaint we have received. What is the meaning of it all? Why this effort of the Company to remove a specific liability? Under Condition 9, the Company agree on the one hand to provide Medical Aid for the extra premium of 1½d. per week, and, on the other, stipulate that the benefit may be discontinued at the will of the assured or the Company. The Company, however, having accepted the premiums for 16 years, we do not think the Court would uphold their contention. The least the Company can do, in our opinion, if they should persist in their refusal to accept any further premiums for Medical Aid Benefit, is to return the whole of the premiums contributed from the commencement of the policy in June, 1896. We should recommend you to again tender the premium, and if they decline to accept it, let us know.——C. S. (Mile End Road).—Your case is apparently on all fours with that of "X. Y. Z." Act as we have suggested, and inform us how you get on.——J. H. (East Finchley).—The assurance on the life of the aunt was effected prior to the Act of 1909, which legalises policies that were admittedly invalid because of the absence of "insurable interest." It is, therefore, made a condition that no policies should be deemed to be void by reason only that the person had not at the time the policy was effected an insurable interest in the life of the person assured. The Act, however, further declares that all such policies must have been effected by a person who had a bonâ-fide belief that he would incur expenses in connection with the death or funeral of the assured. As no such belief existed, there are good grounds for claiming a return of the premiums paid, and you had better take up this point with the Head Office, or instruct a soliciter to do so. We note your statement that the premiums already paid exceed the sum assured "twice over." The policy makes no provision for relief by the payment of a Cash Surrender Value or the issue of a Free Paid-up Policy to meet such a case as that you have brought to our notice.

Pearl Life Assurance Co.—A. J. W. (St. Annes-on-Sea).—A son sixteen years of age obtained assurances of £15 each three years ago on the lives of his father and mother, at a premium of 1s. weekly. The existence of these policies having recently been discovered, the parents strongly object to the same and the manner in which they were effected. A minor cannot enter into a legal contract, and, in our opinion, the premiums are recoverable. Consult a solicitor.

Surrender Values.—T. T. (Richmond).—Surrender Values vary according to the nature and duration of the policy. Unless guaranteed and defined in advance, the values are determined by the Company themselves, and policy holders have no option but to accept or decline any offer made. The cash value of bonuses is included in the amount allowed as Surrender Value, but there are exceptions to this rule. The sum named in the case you mention seems very low for a policy which has been in force 45 years. If you will let us know the Company with whom the assurance was effected, and whether Whole Life or Endowment and age at entry, we shall be better able to advise.

Refuge Assurance Co.—D. C. (Curragh).—Your wife insured the life of her mother in 1895, premium, 1s. weekly, sum assured, £10 4s. A second policy for £7 16s. was issued at a like premium in 1910. Up to date, £23 has been paid in premiums, or £5 in excess of what can be drawn at death. The policies are legal provided they were taken out for funeral expenses, notwithstanding that the "life assured" did not sign the proposal form and has no knowledge of the assurances having been effected. A change in your circumstances having occurred, and being unable to continue the premiums of 2s. weekly you applied for a cash payment and the reply you received from the District Office informs you that "all policies under the Industrial Tables do not carry Cash Surrender Value." In respect of the first policy, the Company, you say, offer a Free Policy for £5 17s. 6d., payable at death; and as regards the second policy, this "has not been in force long enough to obtain a Free Policy." The premiums now being in arrear, you are informed that the policies will soon have to be lapsed, which means that all the money paid would be forfeited. You are helpless and at the mercy of the Company. You must either pay up or lose all, unless you chose to accept the Free policy.—C. B. (South Hackney).—This assurance was effected on the life of the step-son, and apparently was maintained in force for a period of nearly seven months, when the son died, the certified cause of death being consumption. You inform us that the Company have declined to pay the claim of £5 19s. on the ground (a) that the life assured was in bad health at the time the proposal was made, and (b) that his stepmother made a false declaration. Your reply to these allegations is (1) that the assured was in good health when insured; (2) that he was at work at the time and continued his employment until Christmas week; (3) that he left the Army in February, 1912, after serving twelve years. His health on retirement was good, and he was not invalided home. Unless the Company can support the ground of their refusal to pay this claim by indisputable evidence, we are of opinion that they are liable. You can either write the Head Office on the matter, or instruct a solicitor to do so.

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada.—M. E.—You hold two Deferred Annuity policies in this Company, and wish to know if we can advise the continuance of the annual payments in the belief that the annuities will be paid to you should you live to require them. We know of no circumstances which would justify us in replying to your question in the negative. The quinquennial valuation made as at December 31st, 1911, disclosed a strong financial position, the total surplus representing the sum of £980,318, whilst the funds, exclusive of paid-up capital, stood at £8,713,538.

(A number of replies are held over.)

Our Football Pension Won. See page 477.

A NEW AND WONDERFUL INVENTION.

Answer this advertisement. Send no money. Investigate this profitable, easy, independent business. Go into business for yourself. Own and control it permanently.

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.

PRESS THE BULB.

500% PROFIT.

£8 Profit for YOU Each Week.

The 20th Century photographic sensation. Everybody needs and buys photographs. Be a one minute photographer. Many men are making more than £10 per week, MAKING PHOTOS ON POST-CARDS.

ONE MINUTE CAMERA. This camera takes, finishes and delivers original post-card photographs right on the spot without plates, films, printing or dark-room. Big money everywhere—at fairs, races, bathing resorts, and at all outdoor occasions. Remember, it costs you nothing to investigate. Be the first and reap the profits.

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THE ONE MINUTE CAMERA CO.

DEPT. E103. RAND McNALLY BLDNG., CHICAGO, U.S.A.

AN OFFER TO READERS.

NEWSPAPER'S £5 NOTE.

An enterprising Journal recently offered a £5 note to the highest bidder, just to test the selling powers of the paper. Whilst the note was eventually disposed of for £4 10s., a number of applicants treated the offer as a huge joke.

A well-known firm of tailors, Messrs. H. Thomas & Co., of 142, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C., offer to make a Gent's Complete well-made stylish Suit to measure for only 15s. 6d. Whilst this offer, which is made only to "John Bull" readers, is no less startling than the paper's offer of a £5 note, it is perfectly honest, and made by a responsible firm.

The materials are good, which you can see before ordering as samples are sent free, and a guarantee is given that if not entirely satisfactory goods are given, money is returned in full.

Send a post-card or call to-day for patterns, measure chart, and fashion sheet. Mention "John Bull," for these 15s. 6d. measure garments are essentially "John Bull" offers. See offer underneath

A COMPLETE, UP-TO-DATE,

GENT'S SUIT 15/6

ADVERTISING OFFER TO "JOHN BULL" READERS.

We realise that to make you a customer we must go one better than our competitors, and with this object we will make "John Bull" readers a stylish, well-tailored Complete Suit for the absurdly low sum of 15s. 6d.—to measure, too, remember. Other prices 19s. 6d., 23s. 6d., up to 40s.

Don't be sceptical. Realise that this is an advertising offer absolutely, and send us to-day merely a postcard for large range of patterns, measure chart, and fashion sheet. The materials will bear the closest scrutiny—then we fit you to your satisfaction or refund money. Why say more? Can we do more? Mention "John Bull" for when you see it there—IT IS SO.

H. THOMAS & Co., 142, Gray's Inn Rd., London, W.C.

TECLA

Possessors of valuable collections of jewels show a practical appreciation of the rare qualities of Tecla pearls by employing them to lengthen their real pearl necklaces and to enlarge the centres.

London Tecla Gem Co., Ltd., 7 Old Bond Street, W.

HEIGHT INCREASED

By adopting my simple system you can put inches on your height in three months. No apparatus. No Medicines. Ordinary habits retained. Send two penny stamps for particulars to:—

PROFESSOR PROWSE, Specialist in the increase of Height, 23, North End Chambers, Croydon.

The "Diamond" Seven for 1912

GRAND NATIONAL (Jerry M)—BEN AINLEY, 10, Hamilton Street, Old Trafford, Manchester, £500

THE LEGER (Tracery)—F. SMITH, 241, High Street, Porth, Glam. £500

CAMBRIDGESHIRE (Adam Bede)—W. H. BLACKSHAW, The Lea, Denham, Bucks £500

CESAREWITCH (Warlingham)—H. COLCHIN, Junr., Woolpack, Iwade, Sittingbourne, Kent, £500

STEWARD'S CUP (Golden Rod)—T. PHILLIPS, 34, The Park, Treharris, Glam. £500

The Editor of "JOHN BULL" on Feb. 1st stated:—

"We have many times expressed satisfaction with Mr. H. Diamond's methods, and can assure our readers that from beginning to end each sweep promoted by him is absolutely straight, square and above-board."

THE DERBY (Tagalie)—W. H. COWDERY, The Foresters' Arms, Cox-green, near Maidenhead, Berks £500

NOVEMBER HANDICAP (Wagstaff) — A. B. WYATT, 3, Falmer Road, Enfield, Middx. £500

The Only Address is—

H. DIAMOND, LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND.

Letters 2½d. Postcards 1d.

£1,770 IN PRIZES WEEKLY!

The value of our prizes amounts to £1,770 weekly—an offer far in excess of that made by ANY OTHER PAPER IN THE WORLD.

FIRST PRIZE - - £450

PRIZES VALUE £1,770

SECOND PRIZE - - - - £50
THIRD PRIZE - - - - - £25
Ten Prizes of £2 10s. each.

A Large Number of £1 and 10s. Prizes,
200 Prizes of 7/6
AND
5,000 OTHER VALUABLE PRIZES.

PRIZES VALUE £1,770

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

PEACE WITH HONOUR
AWAITING DEVELOPMENTS
RESTING
WRITING LOVE LETTERS
BACK DOOR
SIR RUFUS ISAACS
WAITING
A MISFIT
SOLD AGAIN
IN THE SHADOWS
THE WRONG TURNING
MOST UNJUST
ROOM FOR TWO
SPRING POETS
UNINVITED GUEST
MARRYING FOR MONEY
HER MISTAKE
HIGH SOCIETY
PRACTICAL JOKES
MY OPINION IS
PRESSING ENGAGEMENT
BEHIND THE TIMES
HOBSON'S CHOICE
GETTING OFF
WHEN LOVE WANES
PRIVATE DETECTIVES
COMPANY PROSPECTUS
CLOSE SHAVE
COLD SHOULDER
APRIL SHOWERS
FOOTBALL FORECASTS
SAFETY MATCHES
TIGHT SQUEEZE
TREASURE HUNT
POPULAR ILLUSION
EVERY WOMAN KNOWS
ROTTEN ROW
THE TWILIGHT
ANGLING SEASON
BREAKING RECORDS

BULLETS THE BEST JUDGED COMPETITION—WITH MOST PRIZES.

IMPORTANT.

EVERY BULLETS COUPON RECEIVED IS SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY READ BY OUR SPECIAL STAFF OF ADJUDICATORS. AFTER WHICH ALL THE COUPONS ARE READ A SECOND TIME WITH THE SAME TROUBLE AND CARE.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected, any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example, "SIR RUFUS ISAACS," and take the letters "F" and "C," using the word "King's" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet, "FAMOUS KING'S COUNSEL." Or from the example, "SPRING POETS" the Bullet, "GENERAL NUISANCE" can be formed. Again, if you take the example, "HIGH SOCIETY," using the letter "E" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet, "EXCEEDINGLY EXCLUSIVE."

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

Competitors can send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence, but if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Closing date, Wednesday, April 9th.

Example _____
Bullet _____

Example _____
Bullet _____

(27) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed _____
Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated April 12th.

Closing date, Wednesday, April 9th.

Example _____
Bullet _____

Example _____
Bullet _____

(27) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding

Signed _____
Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 27." "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the editor, assisted by a competent staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on this page, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.
4. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.
5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, April 9th.
6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet reaching him shall receive careful consideration by a competent staff; but the Editor will not hold himself responsible for coupons lost or mislaid.
7. No correspondence can be entered into concerning this competition.
8. The Editor's decision on all matters concerning this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

RESULT OF TWENTY-FOURTH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £400:—

Mr. R. NOIR DAVIE,
15, Pleviands Terrace, Edinburgh.
Example:—Mr. McKENNA.
Bullet:—NOTABILITY—NOT ABILITY.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

Mrs. S. GARDNER,
5, Selby Road, Ealing, London, W.
Example:—HOME LIFE.
Bullet:—"FLAT" AFTER HONEYMOON.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25

Mr. H. B. NEWSAM,
25, Coquet Street, Jarrow-on-Tyne.
Example:—BRITISH AEROPLANES.
Bullet:—HARDLY "SAFETY RAISERS."

TEN Prizes of £2 10s. are awarded as follows:

Mr. J. P. McCULLOCH, 26, Aberfeldy St., Alexandra Pk., Glasgow (THE SPRING—SWEETHEARTS "CLOSE SEASON"); Miss A. SHEPPARD, 37, Mafeking Rd., Canning Town, E. (WHITE LIE—LOVELESS BRIDE'S WEDDING); Mr. A. GRANT, 15, Sir David Avenue, Cardiff (MOVING PICTURES—PETTICOATS IN MARCH); Mr. HENRY TEASDALE, 462, Oldham Road, Newton Heath, Manchester (NOTHING—HUSBAND THINKS HOUSEKEEPING); Mr. A. OATWAY, Conservative Club, Bexhill-on-Sea (MOST GIRLS LIKE—MEN WITH "MANORS"); Mr. J. W. BATEMAN, 35, Severn Avenue, Weston-super-Mare (SCHOOL MASTER—A "WHACKS" MODEL); Mr. G. T. PACKHAM, 121, Leahurst Road, Lewisham, S.E. (AUCTION SALES—TERRITORIAL "UNIFORMS" SHORTLY); Mr. W. W. BAILLIE, Mileage Office, G.E.S.W. Railway, Barassie Works, Irvin, N.B. (BOUGHT AND SOLD: DRINK THEN HOME); Mr. W. S. DIXON CHILD, Victoria Buildings, King Street, Cork (HEROISM—ITCHING WITHOUT SCRATCHING); Mr. R. C. GARROD, 22, Norfolk Street, Lowestoft (NOTHING—OFTEN STRIKERS' GRIEVANCE).

10 PRIZE WINNERS of £1 EACH.

ARMSTRONG, J. J., 26, Hallewell Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
COLLINS, STELLA A., 43, Lapwing Lane, West Didsbury, Manchester.
CONEYBEARE, A. H., 487, Stapleton Road, Bristol.
COX, W. H., 15, Lewisham Road, Highgate Road, N.W.
DAVIDSON, W. J., 2, Cleveland Terrace, North Shields.
DUGMORE, Miss, 54, Dinsmore Road, Balham, S.W.
HARDISTY, J. W., 7, Norwich Street, Hunslet, Leeds.
HARRIS, E., Attendant C.W. Underground Lavatory, Covent Garden, W.C.
JENNINGS, E. G., 26, Ravenoak Road, Cheadle Hulme, Stockport.
McLAUCHLIN, J., 2, Willowbank Crescent, Glasgow.

20 PRIZE WINNERS of 10s. EACH.

ANDREWES, H., 4, Vere Street, W.
BEARD, J. E., 56, Whittington Road, Bowes Park, N.
BETTS, E. A., Steynsburg, 12, Pellhurst Road, Ryde, I. of W.
CHURCHYARD, O. P., School House, Tonbridge, Kent.
DONKIN, W. SCOTT, 21, Grey Street, Blyth, Northumberland.
ELLIOTT, Mrs. M., 12, York Road, Silverhill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
GLEESON, P. F., 67, Wrotham Road, Gravesend.
GOLDING, J., 66, Linden Avenue, Kensal Rise, N.W.
HORN, A., A. M. S., R.V. Hospital, Netley, Hants.
JAMES, JANET, 672, Coventry Road, Birmingham.
ORMSBY, Mrs. J. T., 6, Lan Park Road, Pontypridd.
PAGE, Mrs. G., New Barracks, Lincoln.
PARSONS, W., 138, Green Lane, Small Heath, Birmingham.
POE, FRANK, 25, Derwent Avenue, Holbeck, Leeds.
PRESTON, J., Valleyfield, Nairn, N.B.
QUINLIVAN, J. M., 64, Jenner Road, Stoke Newington, N.
QUIRK, J., 54, Provincial Street, Barrow-in-Furness.
STUDDLE, T., 38, Williamson Avenue, Peterboro.
UPCHURCH, S. C., Norwood Road, March, Cambs.
WILSON, F. N. F., Fonthill, The Common, Tunbridge Wells

LIST OF 200 PRIZE WINNERS OF 7s. 6d. EACH. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 24.

A Selection from the List of 5,000 winners of valuable Prizes can be seen in "Mary Bull," dated April 19th.

Allison, Miss L., 19, Duesbery-st., Princes-ave., Hull.
Andrews, W. G., 9, High-st., Alton, Hants.
Arnold, E. H., Southam, Addlestone, Surrey.
Atkins, R., 7, Freshfield-st., Brighton.
Bigot, S., 85, Manchester-rd., Denton, M/c.
Biker, A., 69, Millbrook-rd., Southampton.
Baldwins, Mrs. E. 7, Monk-st., Birkenhead, Cheshire.
Bill, Miss, 5, Estate Office (bottom of Woodlands-rd.), Ilford.
Barnard, H., 9, Homend, Ledbury.
Bassil, G., 55, Avenue-rd., Westcliff, Southend-on-Sea.
Bidford, E. J., 15 St. Leonard's-ave., Stafford
Bell, Mrs. I., 29, Rosedale-rd., Birkenhead.
Birchill, H., 40, Grove Cres.-rd., Stratford, E.
Besley, R. 2, Glebeland-place, Merthyr.
Biddulph, Miss A., 18, Edmund-rd., Saltley, B'ham.
Boll, F. W., 18, Maitland-terrace, Newbiggin-by-Sea, Northumberland.
Bowie, Nancy, Camphill, Paisley.
Boyd, J. H. Lorne Villa, Millport, N.B.
Bristow, H. W., Sherwood, Kenilworth-ave., Harrogate,
Brown, H. G., 54, Sydney-bldgs. Bath.
Brown, G., Corwen House, Bailey-st., Wolverhampton.
Bryson, J. H., Rosemount, Londonderry
Buckingham, Miss, Beach House, Weston super-Mare.
Bullough, A. J., 100, Hollingreave-rd., Burnley
Burton, F. W., 27, Peel-rd., Wolverton.
Bury, F. C., 47, Artillery-place, Woolwich.
Butler-Smith, W., 15, Bouverie-st., Northampton.
Campbell-Bachelor, E., Crawford Lodge, Perth-rd., Dundee.
Carr, W., South End, Bedale, Yorks.
Carter, W. G., Oakfield Cottages, Little Mill, Pontypool, Mon.
Case, J. R., 39, Monica-grove, Slade-lane, Levenshulme, Manchester.
Chapman, E. A., 12, Inglefield-ave., Cathays, Cardiff.
Chappell, A. C., 12, Bouverie-sq., Folkestone.
Clarke, A., 72, Beresford-rd., L'pool, S.
Claude, H., 15, Shaftesbury-rd., Oldfield Park, Bath.
Cowery, G. H., 13, Ashfield-rd., Sneinton, Nottingham.
Cotgrove, W. C., Castle-st., Ongar, Essex.
Crick, J. E., Rainford, Bartlett-rd., Gravesend.
Cuckor, F. J., Podd's House, Brockhurst, Gosport.
Crow, C. W., 197, Charles-rd., Small Heath, B'ham.
Cuthbert, R., 349, Gt. Cheetham-st., Broughton, Manchester.
Dawson, G. 46, Portsmouth-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.
Dixon, Dr. J., 133, Jamacia-rd., Bermondsey, S.E.
Doram, E. C., 51, Belluton-rd., Bristol.
Douglas, L. G., 14, St. Paul's-rd., Weston-super-Mare.
Downes, Mr., 60, Dennetts-rd., New Cross, S.E.
Dunn, O. G., 37, Albion-st., Broadstairs.
Dyson, T., 110, Hermitage-rd. Finsbury Park, N.
Easton, J. L., Mountfield, Turner's Hill, Sussex.
Edwards, T., 54, Folkestone-rd., Dover.
Edwards, W. S., 19, North Villas, Camden-square, London N.W.
Elliot, C., Woodlands, nr. Keswick, Cumb
Ellis, W., 17a, Commercial-rd., Eastbourne.
Elsey F., 55, Farnley-rd., South Norwood, S.E.
Fairbrother, T., 1, Fenton-rd., Fulwood, Preston.
Fawbert, F. M., 96 Fairmont-rd., Grimsby, Lincs.
Fea, C., South Lodge, Pinner.
Ferguson, Mrs. L., 672, Coventry-rd., Birmingham.
Finley Mrs. E. E., Belmont, Ryde, I W.
Fitton, Miss A., 22, Montague-st., Worthing, Sussex.
Flowers, A., Sergt.-Major, 44th Brigade, R.F.A., Glasgow.
Forrest, R., 94, Church-lane, Tooting, S.W.
Forster, Miss L., 1 Lansdowne-cres., Promenade, Blackpool, N.
Fry, S. C., 17, Old Deer Park Gardens, Richmond, Surrey.
Gainsford, E. E. 59, Collingwood-rd., Northampton.
Garrard, Mrs. A., 12, Norbury Court-rd., Norbury, S.W.
Gedes, R., 45, Nelson-rd., Stroud Green, N.
Gellatly, T. F., 80, Ferry-rd., Dundee.
Gilman, Gertrude, 124 West Derby-rd., Liverpool.
Goldby, Miss V. M., 38, Wren-st., Coventry
Goodson, C. B., 31, Thorpe-rd., Melton Mowbray.
Gould, A. A., 9, Dunster Gardens, Brondesbury, N.W.
Gowan, Miss E., 6, Campbell-rd., E. Ham, Essex.
Graham-Stewart, L., 1, Crawford Gardens, Cliftonville, Margate.
Grigsby, A., 25, Garden City Edgware.
Guntert, Mary C., Market-st., Galashields, Scotland.
Hamilton, W., 11, Leicester-rd., Newport, Mon.
Hampton, J. Needless-rd., Perth, Scotland.
Hansford, F., 10, Magdala-terr., Bridport, Dorset.
Harcourt-Smith, F. A., 3, Martell-rd., West Dulwich, S.E.
Harding, H. G. 47, St. Mark's-rd., Easton, Bristol.
Harley, E. W., 21, Station-ave., Sandown, I.O.W.
Harrison, Mrs. J. H., 113, Bronchurch-rd., Brighton.
Hepworth, T. S., 9, Jeffcock-rd., Darnall, Sheffield.
Hillier, S. Rose Cottage, Highland-rd., Southsea.
Hillman, Mrs. P., 79, Mount Gold-rd., Plymouth.
Houghton, Miss L., Ivy Dene, Phillips-ave, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.
Hunt, Mrs. M. W., 46, Whitstable-rd., Canterbury.
Innocent, Francis J., 118, Abbeyfield-rd Sheffield.
Jackson, C. R., 8, Edith-rd., Faversham, Kent.
Jackson, Miss E. E., 138, Ruabon-rd., Wrexham.
Jackson, Mrs. F., 20, Farmilo-rd., Market house-rd., Walthamstow.
James W., P.O. Telegraphs, Engineering Dept., 34, Sydenham-rd., Croydon.
Jewson, Mrs. E. N., 164, Sirdar-rd., Westbury-ave., Wood Green, N.
Johnson, Mrs., 4, Edgeborough-terr., Guildford.
Johnstone, W., 314, Scotland-rd. L'pool.
Jones, R., 1, Wilby-st Cheetham, Mc.
Kelvey F., 10, Castledown-ave, Hastings.
Kempe, Mrs. F., St. Veryan Vicarage, Granpound-rd., Cornwall
Kenney, Mrs. M. E., 15, Susanville-rd., Dublin.
Kniveton, W., Coronation Villa, Ravenstone, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.
Langworth, A. W., 4, Bath-rd., Southsea Portsmouth.
Lawrence, F. W., 285, Commercial-rd., Portsmouth.
Lee, Mrs. J. H., 1, Roxburgh-st., Sunderland.
Lejeune, J., 4, John-st., Dundee.
Levack, D. R., 46, Duke-st., Huntly, Aberdeenshire.
Lewis, J., 46, Queensland-st. Belfast.
Lilly, J. S., "Olivehurst," Somerville-rd., Sutton Coldfield.
Long, H., 10, Charlotte-st., Little Horton, Bradford.
Lownds, Miss R., 31, Goldsmith-st., Nottingham.
Lowry, C., 4, Wood-lane, off Benburb-st. Dublin.
Lumsden, W., Caenlochan, Forfar.
Manning, L., 3, Clough-cottage, Prestwich, Manchester.
Marshall, F. W., 41 Caird-st., Queen's Park, W.
Mason, G., 2, Harriet-st., Sloane-st., S.W.
Maughan, J., Forth Coal Depot, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Maybank, J., 22, Dyfalty-st., Swansea.
Macdonnell, J. W., 15 Despenser-st., Cardiff, Glam.
Macphaill, J. J., 15, Rodney-st., Glasgow
McGovern, J., 119, Graham-st., Airdrie.
McRea, C., 9a, Pancras-rd., King's Cross N.W.
Melling, T. A. 28, Hornby Boulevard, Litherland, Liverpool.
Mills, Mrs. E. M., "Park View," Oatleys-rd., Ledbury.
Mitchelson, H. M., 5, Allan-st., Dalmarnock, Glasgow.
Moncrieff, H., 103, Daisy-st. Daisyfield, Blackburn.
Moon, T., 22, Sandhurst-st., Latchford, Warrington.
Morrell, Norah, 66, Chatsworth-ave., Aintree.
Moss, G., Rupert-st., Station-rd., Ilkeston.
Munns, Mrs. L., 2, Essex-st., Rugby.
Murdock, W. S. 106, Christchurch-st., Ipswich.
Newbury, R. R., 23, Blagdon-ave., Westoe, South Shields.
Newson, J. M., Technical Bldgs., Dumfries Place, Cardiff.
Newton, J., 26, Clift-st., Carlisle.
Norton, W. H., 10, Falmer-rd. West Green, N.
Oakes, H., 31, Kirkeby-bldgs., Bourne Estate, Holborn, E.C.
Oakley, A. H., 56, Brownlow-st., Weym'th.
Pearce, Mrs. M. A., 6, Market-place, Chippenham.
Pentreath E., Barclays Bank, Ltd., Falmouth.
Petty, W., 73, Mount Pleasant, Barrow-in-Furness.
Phelps, W. C., 168, Station-rd., Beeston, Notts.
Pickering, Edith, 87, Old-rd., Blackley, Manchester.
Piggott, W. J., 112, Hanover-st., Sheffield.
Pinkus J., 17, Rockmead-rd., Victoria Park, N.E.
Platt, E. H., 4, Caroline Place, Hastings.
Powers, H., Band, Holland Park Rink, W.
Price, T., "The Hawthornes," Giltach, Bargoed, South Wales.
Price, K. E., 103, Ritherdon-rd. Balham.
Ramsbottom, F., South End, Bedale, Yks.
Ramsden, H., "Stanholme," Haxey, Doncaster.
Richards, J., 177 Gulson-rd., Stoke, Coventry.
Richardson, W. A., 62, Rock-st., Sheffield.
Richardson, J. R., Sunrise, Over, Cambridge.
Riches, Mrs. C. H., 24, Dumfries-place, Cardiff, South Wales.
Richmond, H., 53 Tong-rd., Armley, L'ds.
Rippon, Mrs. R., 14, Beda-rd., Cardiff.
Roberts, F. L. H., Army Service Corps, Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.
Roweth, Mrs., 74, Victoria-rd., Grangetown, S.O. Yorks.
Samuel, J. 20, Bold-sq., Chester.
Sanctuary, C. H., Hotel-rd., Fowey, Cornwall.
Savage, Mrs. H. V., 23, Deneside-terr., West Bowling, Bradford.
Shakespeare, W., Bolton Arms Hotel, 83, New Bridge-st., Manchester.
Shilling, E. A., 3 Bedford-mans., Bedford-ave., Barnet.
Shufflebotham, Mrs. F., 21, London-rd., Newcastle, Staffs.
Sigee, W., 4, Owlstone-rd., Cambridge.
Slater, Mrs., "Atherstone," Netley-st., So. Farnborough.
Slyfield, J. 2, Bargores-sq., Romford.
Smith, J. G., 23, Stanhope-ter., Upper Stanhope-st., Liverpool.
Tapper, H. G., 2, Park-rd., Swaythling, nr. Southampton.
Tedcastle, A. E., 117 Willowbrae-rd., Edinburgh.
Thomas, E. J., Gwerna House, Maesycwmmer, Newport, Mon.
Thompson, E. H., 95, Harwood-st., Sheffield.
Thomson, J., 132, Randolph-st., Buckhaven, Fifeshire.
Thornely, Mrs. M. G. 21, Abbey-rd., Bearwood, Birmingham.
Throssell, Miss E., 37, High-st., Rushden, Northamptonshire.
Tyon, C. A., 48, Upper Rathbone-pl., Marylebone, W.
Todd, R., 5, Gordan-st., Islington, N.
Tomkinson C., 415, Wellfield-st., Warrington.
Towers, R. J., 16, Henry-st., Cockermouth.
Valentine, W., 50, Warwick-st., Hulme, Manchester.
Walker, J. H., 166, Durban-rd., Grimsby.
Wallerton, M., 24, Danvers-st., Chelsea.
Walsh, J., 19, Moore-st., South Moor, Stanley S.O., Co. Durham.
Warren, Carrie, 33, St. Maur-rd., Fulham.
Watmough, R. W., 47, Baxendall-st., Bradford.
Watson, J., Brighton House, Bedford.
Watts B., 10, Islip-st., Kentish Town.
Weatherley, J., 213, Guinness'-bldgs., Vauxhall, S.E.
Welfare, G. W., 3, Elmwood-ave., Huddersfield.
West, Mrs., 27, Zinzan-st., Reading, Berks.
Whittaker, A., 315, Bolton-rd., Pendlebury, Manchester.
Williams, M. J., 314, Bridgend-rd., Maesteg, Glam.
Williams, B R., 6, Palmer-rd., Devises-rd., Salisbury.
Williams, Mrs. G., The Cottage, Wootton Green-lane, Berkswell, Coventry.
Williams, T. U., 14, Rose-st., Edinburgh.
Williams, C., 239, Victoria-rd., Alexandra Park, N.
Wood, W. J., Balliol House School, Magda'en-rd., Wandsworth Common, S.W.
Woods, A., 34, Elm-ave., Garden Village, Hull.
Wright, W., 785b, Commercial-rd., E.
Yates, E., 16 Salisbury-ter., Darlington.
Young, Mrs. F., 27, Albion-ter., Alverthorpe-rd., Wakefield.

Complete List of 5,000 Winners of Valuable Prizes can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

Prophetic.

At Lincoln to-day (Wednesday) the best thing is

HIGH ROCK

for the Welbeck Plate, whilst the Brocklesby will probably go to

KING'S SCHOLAR,

LICHEN is the likely winner of the Hainton Plate.

At Liverpool, on Thursday, the Hylton Handicap will depend a good deal upon what has happened at Lincoln, but BEAU BOIS is in fine fettle and very much, expected There is some doubt about CRAGANOUR going for the Union Jack Stakes, and in his absence ROSEWORTHY would be good. The Liverpool Spring Cup must see

SCOTS SAINT

in winning colours again, although SYDMONTON will prove a danger. BALLYOUKAN can win the Molyneux Stakes.

On Friday, the National now looks like going to

COVERTCOAT or BALLYHACKLE.

The former will be ridden by P. Woodland and the latter by Mr. Ussher. MAHSUD seems best for the Bridgeman Stakes and TASLETT for the Bickerstaffe Stakes. MIX UP, who is very well at present, should win the Knowsley Plate. On Saturday, FREEFORD must be given another chance in the Cup Course Handicap. HIGH ROCK would win the Earl of Sefton's Plate if kept for that, and might even carry a penalty successfully.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith

F. FIELD AND CO. (65, Long Acre).—F. F (London).—We are informed by the National Sporting League that these people are no longer members of their society.

H. DIAMOND (Lucerne).—A. U. (Chatham).—We are afraid you do not quite understand the difference between a Guaranteed Sweep and a Subscription Sweep. The prizes in Mr. Diamond's Grand National Sweep amounted to £2,000, and were guaranteed, and he had to run the risk of selling sufficient tickets to recoup him this amount, together with heavy expenses. If he were unable to do so, he would have to bear the loss, and, on the other hand, he would obviously be entitled to any profit which might accrue. Altogether we regard a Guaranteed Sweep as fairer than a Subscription Sweep, as the latter is subject to deduction for expenses, the amount of which the public are usually unable to ascertain.

BOUVERET TURF CLUB.—G. T. W. (Bradford).—According to their own published statement these people distributed only a total of about £3,890 in connection with their last year's Derby Sweep. N. D. (Cork).—For reasons already stated we do not recommend this sweep

"JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEP.—TAPPET VALVE.—We have forwarded your suggestion to Mr. O'Brien, but there is nothing to prevent the purchaser sending the counterfoil to Geneva himself.——S. S. (Norwich).—We have no doubt Mr. O'Brien will be happy to explain to you the working of the Draw, but see interview on another page. ——GOOD NAME (Bolton).—We have already stated that there is nothing in the point as to the difference in the number of noughts in the tickets and counterfoils respectively, and that all initial noughts may be disregarded, as they are incidental to the working of the numbering machines.——J. W. (London.—Tickets are 2s. 6d. each and are obtainable in books of nine for £1.——E. J. S. (Bailly en Reviere).—Of course, and in your case a French money order will do.——J. C. (Jonannesburg).—There will be time for you to participate.——SAXBY.—We shall personally go into every detail in connection with the draw, and we are happy to be able to set your mind at rest.—MRS. M. A. N. (Wimbledon).—We have no doubt the letter would be received, but we suggest you should forward English stamps to Mr. O'Brien for the difference in the postage.—— T. J. (Burton-on-Trent).—Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland, is sufficient address.——R. S. T. (Birmingham).—There is every chance of the prize money being further increased.——S. J. T. (Derby).—Under Mr. O'Brien's system there is no possibility of your number being left out of the draw.——INTERESTED READER.—We have passed on your suggestion that the draw should take place a week earlier, but we are afraid it is too late to alter the date. In any case our issue of June 7th is published on the morning of June 4th, the date of the Derby, and will contain the full result of the draw. ——E. H. (Cardiff).—You should communicate with Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland.——S. R. (Liverpool).—Of course, it would be quite possible for one individual to draw the first four prizes, provided he purchased four tickets or more, but the event is highly improbable.

WALTER CHADWICK (Lucerne).—NEW READER.—In view of complaints which have reached us, we have removed this individual's advertisement from our columns.

UNIVERSAL TURF SOCIETY.—SPANTIKOW.—On further enquiry we have reason to believe this sweep is being conducted on straight lines.

CALCUTTA DERBY SWEEP.—F. M. (Bargoed), M. G. S. (South Kensington).—These tickets are now very difficult to obtain, and we are afraid we cannot assist you. You may obtain full particulars in regard to the JOHN BULL Derby Sweep from Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland.——W. H. D. (Pontypridd).—We are sorry we cannot give you the information for which you ask.

A. F. SMALLMAN AND H. T. TERRY.—R. C. B. (West Bromwich).—Mr. A. F. Smaliman is responsible for the *Competitors' Journal* of Geneva, Switzerland; and Mr. H. T. Terry for the *Football World*, whose address is also Geneva.——SPANTIKOW.—A highly respectable firm.

ALBION BANK (Basle).—R. W. D. (Bristol).—This concern is run by a gang of Dutchmen, the principal being a man named de Paauw, whom we exposed some months ago in an article by our Special Commissioner under the heading of "Dirty Derby Diddlers." They are also connected with "Sporting Profit," which we have frequently characterised as a swindle. The "Albion Bank" issues tickets, etc., signed "D. Stuart, Manager," obviously trading upon the well-known name of Mr. Douglas Stuart of Liestal, whose reputaition for straighaforward and honourable dealing is so well known.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, April 5th, 1913.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

	Matches played on ground of first-named team.	Last Year's Result.	JOHN BULL	Lloyd's Weekly.	London Mail.	Umpire	Sunday Chronicle.	Weekly Dispatch	News of the World.	Competitors'
SOUTHERN LEAGUE—2nd LEAGUE—1st LEAGUE	Blackburn Rovers v. Woolwich A. ..	Blackburn won 4—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Derby County v. Chelsea	No Game.	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Tottenham H. v. Oldham A. ..	Spurs won 4—0	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Draw
	Middlesbrough v. Newcastle Un. ..	Draw, 1—1	Home	Draw	Draw	Draw	Home	Away	Away	Home
	Notts County v. Sheffield Un. ..	Notts won 2—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home
	Manchester Un. v. Bolton Wanderers	Manchester won 2—0	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home
	Aston Villa v. Liverpool	Villa won 5—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Sheffield Wednesday v. Bradford C.	Sheffield won 4—2	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Everton v. Manchester City	Everton won 1—0	Away	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Home
	Sunderland v. West Bromwich Albion	Sunderland won 3—2	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Barnsley v. Hull City	Hull won 2—1	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Blackpool v. Birmingham	Blackpool won 1—0	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Draw
	Bradford v. Burnley	Bradford won 2—1	Home	Draw	Home	Away	Away	Draw	Away	Draw
	Bury v. Clapton O.	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Fulham v. Glossop	Glossop won 2—0	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Grimsby Town v. Lincoln City ..	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home
	Huddersfield Town v. Bristol City ..	Bristol won 2—1	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Leicester Fosse v. Stockport C. ..	Draw, 1—1	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Leeds City v. Notts Forest	Leeds won 3—1	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Away	Draw
	Wolverhampton v. Preston N. E. ..	No Game	Away	Away	Home	Away	Draw	Draw	Away	Home
	Gillingham v. Merthyr Town.. ..	No Game	Home	Home	Draw	Away		Home	Home	Home
	Northampton v. Watford	Draw, 2—2	Home	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Home	Home
	Queen's Park R. v. Coventry City ..	Draw, 0—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Away	Draw
	Brentford v. Brighton and Hove ..	Draw, 1—1	Home	Home	Home	Away	—	Home	Draw	Home
	Millwall v. West Ham Un.	Millwall won 5—1	Home	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Draw	Draw
	Bristol Rovers v. Exeter City.. ..	Bristol won 2—1	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	—	Draw	Home	Home
	Swindon v. Portsmouth	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Home	Home
	Reading v. Plymouth A.	Draw, 1—1	Draw	Home	Home	Home	—	Draw	Home	Draw
	Norwich City v. Crystal Palace ..	Draw, 1—1	Home	Draw	Away	Away	—	Away	Away	Draw
	Stoke v. Southampton	Southampton won 3—0	Home	Home	Draw	Draw		Draw	Home	Away

Home signifies first mentioned team to win—Away second mentioned team to win.

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